YORKSHIRE NATURALISTS' UNION

ORNITHOLOGICAL REPORT for 1970

forming a supplement to **The Naturalist**

Compiled by
JOHN R. MATHER

YORKSHIRE NATURALISTS' UNION ORNITHOLOGICAL SECTION

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The Recorders, together with A. J. Wallis (Secretary), form the Reports Committee.

REPORT for 1970 — Compiled by John R. Mather

Owing to continuing business pressures, the Editor of the Ornithological Report, Athol J. Wallis, has unfortunately had to give up the task. He will still act as editor of the reports for 1967, 68 and 69 and these will be published in one issue as soon as possible. In order to bring things up to date it was felt desirable to publish the 1970 report without further delay and future reports will be published promptly in July each year. In spite of the lack of reports for the past three years, the number of records received has been excellent and my thanks are extended to all those who have sent in their observations, either to the vice-county recorders or to their Local Society recorders. I have been fortunate this year in being able to extract much material from the published Local Reports. In future when this report is published in July, some of the Local Reports will not be to hand and I would ask observers to let the vice-county recorders have a copy of their notes as early in the new year as possible to ensure their inclusion in the County Report.

The Reports Committee considered no fewer than 110 descriptions of birds on the rarities list and only a small number were rejected, mainly because insufficient detail was obtained. All the birds in this report which qualify for a full description, as outlined in the report for 1965/66 have been considered by the Reports Committee and where appropriate, by the *British Birds* Rarities Committee.

1970 had many interesting birds and many observations on some of the not so rare, were very valuable. Hornsea Mere has been regularly watched and has produced spectacular numbers of waterfowl and other species. Reward for watching regularly at one site came to those who saw the Purple Heron at Adel Dam in June. The watchers at Fairburn Ings continue to record interesting species, and a Kentish Plover in May, a Baillon's Crake and a Golden Oriole in June and a Crane in August are some examples. The year was a good one for rare warblers and Spurn recorded Icterine, Barred, Bonelli's, Yellow-browed, Pallas's and Dusky. A Red-throated Pipit in full summer plumage at Flamborough on 10th May was the only species new to the county list.

The year was not without the usual spate of "escaped" birds. Those which obviously come under this heading, for example the parrots, African weaver finches and other similar species present no difficulty, but those which could also occur naturally are more difficult to sort out. There are several such in this report, waterfowl being the main offenders. Large birds of prey, if escaped from captivity are often more obliging by showing their "jesses", but if these are lost their origin can only be conjectured.

We have difficulties too with individuals of truly wild birds, perhaps due to abberrations of plumage such as "leucism", schizochroism (the condition which produces black and white corvids and Blackbirds), heavy moult, and to a lesser extent, interbreeding which is fortunately uncommon and occurs mainly in waterfowl.

The identification of Glaucous and Iceland Gulls, particularly the latter should be made only with caution. An all-white gull should not be automatically judged to be one of these two species. Albinism is quite frequent in Herring Gulls and these birds, especially if immature and therefore slimmer in build than adults can too easily be mistaken for Iceland Gulls. Leucism, a condition in which the pigmentation is only reduced, and not altogether absent, gives rise to immature Herring Gulls which closely resemble immatures of Iceland and Glaucous Gulls. To add to this problem it is now known that Glaucous Gulls are interbreeding with Herring Gulls in Western Iceland, the resulting young showing size and plumage characters of both species. Armed with this knowledge the observer must judge his bird fairly and with an open mind.

There are many bird-ringers in Yorkshire and much useful work carried on with interesting results. It is an impossible task to keep contact with all the ringing activity in a county as large as ours and publication of the very few recoveries which reached me for 1970 would be valueless.

Several local Societies and organisations have published their observations and results and those seeking more detailed accounts for a particular area should consult the following reports:
Spurn Bird Observatory
Knaresborough Ringing Station
Fairburn Ings Nature Reserve
The Canada Goose Study Group of Yorkshire
Bradford Naturalists' Society
Doncaster and District Ornithological Society
Harrogate and District Naturalists' Society
Huddersfield Bird-watchers' Club
Leeds and District Bird-watchers' Club
Teesmouth Bird Club (Quarterly)
Wharfedale Naturalists' Society

The Section has recently appointed a Research Committee and it is intended to request the co-operation of as many Societies and individual observers as possible, in the task of investigating fully the exact status of certain species in the County. Several Species will repay a full enquiry and the results obtained will be published in *The Naturalist*.

May I request the continued support of all those who have contributed to this report, and also thank Athol J. Wallis and the vice-county recorders who have sifted the mass of records for their particular parts of Yorkshire.

JOHN R. MATHER
Chairman, Reports Committee
September 1971

Classified List

The order used is that of the B.O.U. (1952) *Check-list* and English names follow current practice.

1. Black-throated Diver *Gavia artica*

1 at Wintersett Res. on 4th January (DJS. *et al.*). 1 at Eccup Res. from 4th to 6th January. At Filey on 28th February, 4 flew north and 2 were in the bay (RHAp, FJT). An adult in summer plumage at Digley Res. on 17th July (JED. *et al.*). 1 at Hornsea on 12th October (WFC). 1 at Southfield Res. on 21st and 22nd November (ML). At Spurn; singles on the sea on 11th April and 9th October, and 1 flew west over the "Narrow Neck" on 31st October.

2. Great Northern Diver *Gavia immer*

2 on the sea at Spurn on 27th August and 3 on 12th September. 1 in summer plumage, flew north at Hornsea on 21st October (WFC). 6 flew north at South Gare on 29th November (SCN). One at Fairburn Ings on 26th December left to the north after a brief stay (CW. *et al.*).

4. Red-throated Diver *Gavia stellata*

No large movements noted off the coast. ca. 20 in Robin Hoods Bay on 26th March (DIF). 15 north and 13 south at South Gare on 12th April was the largest number reported. 1 at Eccup Res. on 24th October was the only inland record.

5. Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*

About 35 pairs bred in the county, only 25 of these successfully. The spring build-up at Fairburn Ings reached 19 in early April: at Hornsea, 27 on 2nd April; Bretton Park, 16 on 6th April; Mickletown 17 on 11th April; Knotford Nook G.P., 18 on 11th April, and Wintersett Res., 24 on 26th April. 30 at Fairburn Ings on 27th September was maximum of autumn. Up to 7 were at Hornsea Mere from September to year end. 20 on sea at Bridlington, a regular wintering area, on 31st January.

6. Red-necked Grebe *Podiceps griseigena*

2 at Bridlington on 4th January (RL). 1 in Scarborough Harbour on 17th January with 2 there from 24th January to 11th February, and 1 again from 1st to 22nd March (AJW. *et al.*). 1 at Welton water from 27th to 24th January (SGW). 3 at Hornsea Mere on 7th February (MGH) and 1 there on 18th March. 1 at Throxenby Mere near Scarborough on 1st March (FJT).

The autumn produced more records of this species than before recorded. Birds in summer plumage occurred singly at South Gare from 16th to 22nd August (NJ. *et al.*), Filey Bay in 22nd August, 5th September and 3rd October (RHA) and at Spurn on 19th September. 1 in almost full summer plumage at Hornsea on 15th October (WFC). 1 to 2 birds at Bridlington from 25th October to year end (RC). 1 to 2 in Filey Bay on several dates in November and December (RHAp. *et al.*). 1 at Hornsea Mere on 25th November and from 4th to 14th December, 3 on 15th December and 2 from 16th to 18th December. 1 off Marine Drive, Scarborough on 30th October and 1 in the Harbour on 26th to 27th December (AJW).

Inland, 1 at Wintersett Res. from 1st to 13th December (AP, PS).

7. Slavonian Grebe *Podiceps auritus*

1 at Fairburn Ings on 1st January (CW. *et al.*). At Hornsea Mere, 1 from 16th to 18th January with 2 there on 24th January (WFC). 2 on 7th February (MGH) and singles on 23rd and 28th March (RL, GED. *et al.*) and 2nd and 12th April (AWW). 1 at Leighton Res. on 26th October (PJC). 1 at Hornsea Mere on 10th November, 2 on 15th December, and 1 on 16th December (WFC). 1 at Almholme near Doncaster on 18th November (JP).

8. Black-necked Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis*

1 at Hornsea Mere on 2nd January and 14th February (WFC, AWW). 1 there on 25th October and 8th and 9th November (WFC). 1 on Quarry Gate Res., Osmotherly on 9th September was moulting from summer plumage (PSE). 1 stayed at Fairburn Ings from 20th September to 4th October (CW. *et al.*).

9. Little Grebe *Podiceps ruficollis*

35 breeding pairs (with eggs or young) were reported from 12 waters in V.C. 63. A peak of 25 at Fairburn Ings on 27th September was lower than for some years. 20 at Wath Ings on 2nd August. 28 at Denaby Ings on 31st August. 27 at Winteresett Res. on 10th October. 60 on the Wentworth Estate on 11th October. The species was recorded in small numbers, mainly 1 to 5, from many waters in the winter months.

The "Canal" at Spurn had singles on 3 dates in April and 1 in May. 2 dates in July and up to 2 birds on several dates in August, September, October and November with up to 4 birds in December.

12. Leach's Petrel *Oceanodroma leucorrhoa*

1 seen flying over the river near Settle on 4th October (BSh). A bird picked up dead near Settle on 6th October was probably the same individual and was preserved by J.R.M. It was a juvenile ♂ in poor condition with no body fat. 1 at Coatham Sands, Redcar on 21st October (BF, NJ). An oiled bird picked up dead on beach at Hornsea on 16th December (WFC).

14. Storm Petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus*

2 flew north at Spurn on 21st October. Another petrel (sp.) was on the sea at the same time.

16. Manx Shearwater *Procellaria puffinus*

Singles passed at Spurn on 31st March and 26th April, 7 on 22nd May, 13 on 26th and 4 on 31st May. 2 south off Kettleness on 5th May was the only other spring record.

A few passed at Spurn from late June and more regularly in July with the peak movement during the first week, with 50 on the 4th. 14 north off Bridlington on 3rd July and 6 north off Scarborough on same date. 14 north off Filey on 4th July. 50 north

off Flamborough on 12th July and 150 off Spurn on 15th July were the largest counts. Smaller numbers, mainly single figures, were recorded off the major watch points; Spurn, Hornsea, Flamborough, Filey and Scarborough on several dates from July to October.

1 picked up in a field at Edenthorpe near Doncaster, was released at Southfield Res. on 12th September (ML, RAM).

21. Sooty Shearwater *Procellaria grisea*

1 off Filey on 17th January (RHAp, CC) was an unusual date. 2 flew north off Scarborough and 1 off Filey on 16th August (AJW, LGD) when 3 flew south off South Gare (HM, NJ). 1 off Filey on 22nd August (LGD), 4 north off Scarborough on 31st August (AJW), 1 off South Gare on 4th October and 3 on 21st October (SCN, GN, NJ, BF).

At Spurn, 3 on 4th September, 2 on 5th, 4 on 8th, 2 on 9th and 1 on 23rd. Singles on 3rd, 20th and 30th October all flying north except 2 south on 8th September.

26. Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis*

Spurn recorded the highest numbers with 360 passing on 26th April and 704 on 5th September. 120 passed Filey on 21st November (RHAp) and there were "many" on the sea and on the cliffs at Flamborough — Sewerby on the 22nd (HOB). 1 flew along the Mere side of Oliver's Mount, Scarborough on 26th April (AJW). 1 flew over a wood near Patrington on 24th May (AWW). 1 flew over West Ayton on 21st June (FJT), and the most inland of all, 1 at Knotford Nook G.P. on 24th April which was watched for 20 minutes before it settled on the water (PJS).

27. Gannet *Sula bassana*

The success of the Bempton colony continues and 18 chicks were reared to the full juvenile plumage stage and are presumed to have fledged. 24 sites were occupied (HOB, JF). 224 passed at Spurn on 22nd April, 544 on 22nd May, 140 on 5th September, 122 on 7th September, 116 on 13th September and 103 on 21st October. Smaller numbers passed at Spurn and other sea watching points on many dates, mainly April to October.

28. Cormorant *Phalocrocorax carbo*

Teesmouth had the largest numbers with 94 on 12th April (SCN. *et al.*), 40 in July and August, 101 on 13th September and 120 on 19th September (GST, RTM). At Hornsea Mere, 24 on 2nd January and up to 34 in November and 53 on 7th December (WFC) suggest a return to the larger numbers seen at this water in the early 1950's.

Inland records came from; Fairburn Ings, where a bird stayed from 21st February to 8th April with 2 there on 18th April, 4 on 9th May and 1 on 13th June and 7th November (CW. *et al.*). Leighton Res.; 1 on 28th May and 2 juveniles on 18th October (PJC). Gouthwaite Res.; an immature on 15th and 16th August (FAW. *et al.*) and Tophill Low Res. where 3 occurred on 13th December.

29. Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*

Apart from the breeding population on the Flamborough-Bempton cliffs, the species was rarely recorded. 2 at South Gare on 1st February and 1 on 21st August (WN). 1 at Hornsea Mere on 8th March (AWW) and 1 north off Hornsea on 20th October (WFC). Fewer than usual noted at Filey where 2 on 24th October was maximum (RHA). At Spurn, singles flew south on 30th May, 15th August and 2nd and 6th September.

30. Heron *Ardea cinerea*

T. I. Birkhead has counted Yorkshire Heronries in 1970 and a total of 90 nests is encouraging.

Large numbers were often gathered in the vicinity of breeding woods, viz: 52 at Coniston Cold on 15th March. Up to 20 in January on ploughed land at Farnley Park where there were between 15 and 25 regularly from July to year end. Smaller numbers and singles occurred at many places throughout the year and the general impression is one of recovery to a numerically normal population.

31. Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*

One at Adel Dam, Leeds on 20th June was watched from the "hide" by Colin and Joyce Massingham, Peter Larner and Margaret Rollinson. It was described in detail and the record accepted by "BB" Rarities Committee. It was only the second occurrence of the species in Yorkshire this century.

38. Bittern *Botaurus stellaris*

Single birds seen at Hornsea Mere on 6th and 8th March (JESW), 12th and 13th October, and 12th November (WFC). 1 at Easington Lagoons on 31st October (SGW, AWW).

42. Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia*

1 flying west at Fairburn Ings on 14th May (CW. *et al.*). 2 flew north at Spurn on 30th May and 1 flew south-east over Kilnsea on 26th August.

45. Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

January showed the largest numbers of the early months at most waters, the main ones being; 3,800 at Hornsea Mere on 4th January. 1,000 on the Humber at Spurn on 1st and 2nd January with 600-900 during rest of month. Fairburn Ings had its annual peak of 1,000 on 4th January. Eccup Res. held 800 on 4th January. 1,800 at Leighton Res. on 25th January. These same waters held large numbers from September to year-end including 4,000 at Hornsea Mere on 25th October, 2,500 at Leighton Res. on 18th October and 3,200 on 25th December. Several other places showed large concentrations: 850 at Lindley Res. on 19th September; 200 at Gouthwaite Res. in October, 450 in November and 200 in December. 520 at Broomhead Res. on 25th October and 2,500 at Harewood on 11th October.

The lower Derwent floods attracted 100 on 1st February, 650 on 15th March, 100 on 22nd March and 400 on 29th March. The Humber Wildfowl Refuge showed large counts in January with 3,540 on 1st, 3,100 on 22nd and 31st, 1,300 on 25th February and 900 on 3rd March. 2,000 during September and October, 3,300 on 15th November and 2,900 on 22nd December (ACh). The "Birds of Estuaries" Enquiry organised by the BTO provided counts as follows: (Supplied by DBC). North bank of Humber/Ouse, Spurn to Goole; 2,211 on 15th February, 1,679 on 15th March, 566 on 12th April, 2,930 on 20th September, 4,010 on 18th October, 4,058 on 8th November and 3,738 on 6th December.

46. Teal *Anas crecca*

Hornsea Mere held 600 on 1st January and 700 on 24th January (WFC). 450 at Fairburn Ings on 1st January was the peak number of the early months. 119 at Brownsholme Res. on 12th January (MVB). Gouthwaite Res. had up to 120 in January, 105 in February and 120 in March with smaller numbers throughout April, May and June before autumn build-up to 112 by 18th July, 220 in August, 235 in September, 320 in October, 380 in November, and 330 in December, the highest numbers ever recorded there (AFGW). Low Ellers Carr showed 150 on 4th January and 200 on 18th February. The Lower Derwent Floods had the highest numbers, viz: 1,000 on 1st February, 3,000 on 8th February and 8th March, 1,700 on 15th March decreasing to 100 by 29th March (HOB). Autumn figures at Hornsea Mere were 200 on 23rd and 31st October, 400 on 19th November, 550 on 5th December and 600 on 25th December (WFC). Fairburn Ings had its peak of the year-end with 750 on 18th December. Scaling Dam held up to 250 in October (DSS, DGB). The Humber Wildfowl Refuge had 310 on 3rd January, 185 on 12th September, 700 on 18th October, 360 on 15th November and 230 on 31st December (ACh). The "Estuary Count" (*see* Mallard) showed 275 on 15th February, 118 on 15th March, 57 on 12th April, 115 on 20th September, 869 on 18th October, 229 on 8th November and 385 on 6th December (per DBC).

For the second year in succession a ♂ American Green-winged Teal *Anas c. carolinensis* occurred at Gouthwaite Res. and was seen from 14th May to 21st June (PJC, AFGW. *et al.*).

47. Garganey *Anas querquedula*

2 at Low Ellers Carr on 22nd March were first of Spring. 5 there on 30th April and 2 pairs bred successfully. Fairburn Ings had 4 by 18th April and 9 on 12th August was maximum. At Wath Ings, 1 on 3rd April, 1 on 19th July and 3 on 4th August. Single birds occurred at Yearby Pool on 16th and 26th July (DWW. *et al.*), and at Almholme and Thorne Moor in August. 3 at Hornsea Mere on 1st October were the last seen (WFC).

49. Gadwall *Anas strepera*

Hornsea Mere held spectacular numbers, viz: 1 to 4 during January, 1 on 7th June, 60 on 11th September, up to 80 during October with 120 on 28th October, 90 on 30 and 31st October, 100 on 1st to 3rd November, numbers dropping thereafter to 9 at year-end (WFC, GED. *et al.*). The species was recorded at Fairburn in all months

with 16 on 27th September and 31 on 12th October as maxima. 4 at Welton Water on 22nd February (SGW). 1 pair at Scampston on 15th April and 17th May (AJW). Present in small numbers at Low Ellers Carr from 10th September to year end (max. 8 in November). 1 at Almholme on 22nd March, 2 at Blackmoorfoot Res. on 23rd April, 1 at Wentworth on 14th October, 6 at Swinsty Res. on 21st August (GTF), 1 pair on Quarry Gate Res. Osmotherley on 9th September (PSE) and singles at Harewood on 27th September and 11th October.

50. Wigeon *Anas penelope*

The Lower Derwent floods attracted large numbers during the first 3 months of the year, viz: 900 in January, 3,000 on 1st February, 4,000 on 8th February, 4,500 on 14th and 22nd February, 5,000 on 8th March, 5,500 on 15th March, 1,000 on 22nd March and 500 on 29th March (HOB). 1,650 at Cherry Cobb on 11th January, 1,500 on 15th February and 850 on 15th March (BSP). 100 in Bridlington Bay on 4th December (RL). 1,850 flew into Hornsea Mere from the SSE on 1st January and 1,400 on 2nd January. 180 to 380 there between October and year end (WFC). The Humber Wildfowl Refuge had 485 on 23rd January, 440 on 19th February, 420 on 15th March, 320 on on 30th September, 270 on 22nd October, 750 on 19th November and 800 on 31st November (ACh). The "Estuary Enquiry" counts were; 1,684 on 11th January, 1,698 on 15th February, 1,350 on 15th March and 280 on 12th April. 260 on 18th October, 622 on 8th November and 30 on 6th December (per DBC).

Up to 63 at Spurn in January and birds passed south on several dates in September with 63 on 8th, 119 on 8th November and 68 on 23rd December as maxima. Gouthwaite Res. had up to 42 in January, 33 in February, 26 in March, and 6 in April. 29 in September, 49 in October, 83 in November, and 60 in December (AFGW). 245 at Forcett Park Lake on 14th February and 160 on 12th December (RHA). 112 on South Gare on 22nd October. 150 at Scaling Dam on 28th October (DGB). 132 at Fairburn Ings on 13th December. Smaller numbers, not exceeding 50, occurred at several other inland waters.

18 pairs are known to have nested in the north-west and 76 young hatched (PJS, CSW, DJ).

52. Pintail *Anas acuta*

The Lower Derwent floods attracted 75 on 14th February, *ca.* 150 on 8th March, 75 on 23rd and 29th March and 1 on 26th April (HOB). 48 on the Humber Wildfowl Refuge on 10th January (ACh). 23 on flood-water at Patrington on 22nd February (AWW). Hornsea Mere had 30 on 24th January, 17 on 13th October, 83 on 19th November, and 17 on 7th December as maxima (WFC). The "Estuary Count" provided 42 on 11th January, 15 on 15th February, 12 on 15th March and 13 on 8th November (per DBC). 48 at Spurn on 20th September and 15 on 7th November, flying south. Elsewhere, reported from 16 waters in small numbers not exceeding 10 birds.

53. Shoveler *Anas clypeata*

Hornsea Mere held the largest numbers, viz: 135 on 1st January, 80 on 24th January (WFC), 60 on 14th February, 40 on 8th March (AWW). 100 during October, 180 on 6th November, 140 on 26th November and 130 on 13th December (WFC). 15 on the Lower Derwent floods on 22nd March was maximum there (HOB). At Low Ellers Carr there were up to 30 in July increasing to 60 during September and October and up to 70 during November. 30 at Coatham Marsh, Recar on 6th August and 38 on 15th September (SCN). Up to 14 at Copgrove Lake in October (RE). 18 at Leighton Res. on 10th October (PJC). 18 at Stanley S.F. on 18th August. Fairburn Ings maxima were 170 on 31st August and 200 on 17th September. At Spurn, 20 on 25th July and 18 on 26th. 18 on 9th August and 21 on 16th were maxima. Smaller numbers, not exceeding 10, occurred at several other places, mainly March to April and August to September.

54. Red-crested Pochard *Netta rufina*

A ♂ at Low Ellers Carr from 7th to 13th February (JP, RA. *et al.*) was no doubt the one seen at Thrybergh Res. on 15th and 16th February (ND, WED). Published with the usual "escape" proviso.

55. Scaup *Aythya marila*

A flock on the Humber at Spurn increased from 450 on 18th January to 600 on 10th February. 25 at Bridlington on 15th November (RL) was the only other coastal figure exceeding 10.

Reported from 7 inland waters, mainly singles but 2 on two dates, in January, July, August, October and December.

56. Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*

Hornsea Mere had up to 300 in January, 150 on 2nd April, 450 from 22nd October to 5th November, 700 from 22nd to 26th November, 860 on 13th December and 700 from 22nd to 24th December (WFC, BSP, AWW). 200 at Southfield Res. on 18th January and 100 on 14th February. 140 at Middletown on 19th April and 100 at Wentworth on 13th December. The Gouthwaite Res. population built up from 15 to 102 by 22nd July. Up to 100 in August declining to 55 in early September and numbers falling off to 13 in December (AFGW). Fairburn Ings maxima were 165 on 15th February and 175 on 31st August (CW. *et al.*). Knotford Nook G.P. had 85 on 6th January, 70 on 13th February and up to 35 in March and April. Up to 30 during August and September increasing to 60 by 19th December (PSW. *et al.*). Several other waters had flocks of up to *ca.* 50 mainly during the winter months, sometimes for only short periods before the birds moved on.

57. Pochard *Aythya ferina*

The Lower Derwent floods attracted the largest numbers; viz: 270 on 18th January, 1,100 on 1st February, 100 on 14th February, 500 on 1st March, 350 on 8th March, 200 on 15 th March with none present on 22nd March (HOB). Hornsea Mere had 300 on 1st January, 400 on 24th January and 300 on 2nd April (WFC, AWW). 300 on 15th October, built up to 400 by month end. 700 on 10th November, 750 on 5th and 6th December, 800 on 22nd December (WFC). 100 on the Humber Wildfowl Refuge on 8th November (ACh). 300 on Tophill Low Res. on 13th December (AWW) — this water is becoming an important one for diving ducks. 110 on Scaling Dam on 13th August was the largest flock noted in the north-east (DWW). 81 at Bolton-on-Swale G.P. on 1st March (PJS). 120 at Almholme on 25th February and 170 on 30th September. 204 at Wentworth on 1st March. Fairburn Ings had a maximum of 275 on 15th February (CW). The peak at Gouthwaite Res. was 70 in November (AFGW). 50 at Lindley Res. from September to November, with 80 on 24th September (PJC. *et al.*). 107 passed Spurn on 7th November. Smaller numbers, up to *ca.* 50 occurred at several other waters.

58. Ferruginous Duck *Aythya nyroca*

A ♀ at Hornsea Mere on 16th October (WFC) and a ♀ seen on Nafferton Mere on 1st November (HOB). This species is frequently kept in captivity and all occurrences are published with the escape proviso.

60. Goldeneye *Bucephala clangula*

Hornsea Mere was the main water for the species, and the maxima were; 100 on 4th January and 14th February, 120 on 2nd April, 130 on 12th April, 100 from 25th to 29th October. 250 on 7th and 8th November. 130 from 21st to 26th November and 150 on 20th December (WFC, AWW). Welton Water also held large numbers with 103 on 31st January, 125 on 4th February. 106 on 22nd February, 143 on 15th March as maxima (SGW). Gouthwaite Res. was the next most important water and the monthly maxima were 25 in January, 16 in February. 22 in March, 12 in April, 8 on 3rd May with 1♂ staying to 26th. 2♂♂ had returned by 30th September but the main influx was on 24th October when 60 arrived, the largest flock ever seen on this water. Only 24 remained next day. Up to 18 in November and 22 in December (AFGW). 24 on Sawley Dene Lake on 24th March. Off Hornsea, 11 flew north on 20th October and 38 north on 21st October (WFC). 93 flew north at South Gare on 22nd October (BF, NJ), 9 flew north at Filey on 24th October (RHAp) and 17 flew north off Spurn on 23rd December.

61. Long-tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis*

Hornsea Mere attracted several birds; 1 from 2nd to 8th January. 1♂ on 19th November, 2♀♀ on 23rd November,3 on 24th and 25th November with 2 until 6th December. 11 including 2♂♂ on 7th December, and the number decreasing to 1 by 27th December (WFC). 1 dead (oiled) at Filey on 24th January (RHAp). 5 in Filey Bay on 24th and 27th October. 3 on 7th November and 1 on 28th November (RV, RHAp). 2 at Bridlington on 1st November (RL). 12 flew north off Redcar on 3rd November (SCN). 1 on Lockwood Beck Res. on 28th October (DGB). 2 in Jacksons Bay, Scarborough on 22nd November (AJW). 1 flew south off Spurn on 1st November and 1 on the "Canal" on 7th November. 1♀ at Elsecar Res. on 25th October (JIM) and possibly the same bird at Wentworth Lake from 15th to 22nd November (JIM, DJS). 1♀ at Fairburn Ings on 21st December (CW).

62. Velvet Scoter *Melanitta fusca*

Spurn recorded singles on two dates in January. 5 on 31st March and 3 on 12th April. 1 on 1st August, and then up to 4 on several dates from 24th September to year end. Up to 4 birds were recorded at several other coastal watch points in January, and from October to year end. The only inland record was 4, (2♂♂ and 2♀♀/imm.) at Wintersett Res. on 22nd November (PS, DJS, JC).

63. Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra*

Occurred in small numbers at most coastal watch points mainly in July, August and September with highest numbers at Spurn; 208 on 16th July, 511 on 17th July, 125 on 14th August and 274 on 23rd September. Inland, were single ♂♂ at Eccup Res. on 4th January and 20th September, 3 at Fairburn Ings on 25th April, 1♂ on Thruscross Res. on 28th June, 2 at Blackmoorfoot Res. on 26th July and 3 on 7th August, 3 at Gouthwaite Res. on 24th July. 75 (only 2♀♀) on Semerwater on 3rd August (DTM). 2 flocks of 43 and 7 flew east over Burley Woodhead on 6th August (JKF). 3 on Fewston Res. on 20th September. 1♂ on Southfield Res. on 28th December.

67. Eider *Somateria mollisima*

Fewer recorded than has become usual in recent years. Apart from 9 off Hornsea in early December and 17 there on 20th December (WFC) no more than 7 were recorded at any of the 9 coastal points where the species occurred.

69. Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator*

Recorded at several coastal watchpoints but only in very small numbers, 1 to 8 mainly from January to April and October to December, with 5 in the Tees estuary on 17th May and 6 at Spurn on 24th May. 45 flying north off South Gare on 21st October was the only double figure (NJ, BF).

Inland: Fairburn Ings had singles on 15th February and 15th May and 2 from 4th to 15th July (CW). 1 at Elland G.P. on 26th April. 1 at Wintersett Res. on 24th October and 8th November. 1 at Eccup Res. on 31st October. 1 at Almholme on 23rd December and 1 at Gouthwaite from 12th to 31st December. Only 1 pair was reported in June from the breeding water in the north-west with no indication of success.

70. Goosander *Mergus merganser*

41 at Hornsea Mere on 1st January and 218 next day, of which 179 were seen to fly in from the S.S.E (WFC). 51 there on 5th January and 50 remained up to 2nd April. 10 on 20th November and a build-up to 68 by 25th December and 51 on 27th December (WFC). 26 at Welton Water on 1st March. 16 on the Derwent floods on 2nd March. 10 at Scaling Dam on 8th March (DGB).

Movement through the area was evident in Nidderdale on 25th January with 11 flying over Harrogate, 23 on the Nidd at Knaresborough, and 7 on Scar Gill Res. (AFGW. *et al.*).

26 on Chelker Res. on 4th January and 22 on 28th December were maxima there (FAW, ESS. *et al.*). 50 at Leighton Res. on 21st January, 75 on 2nd February, 57 on 8th February and 49 on 15th March (PJC, RHA). Eccup Res. had a spring maximum of 67 on 8th February and up to 10 in December. 22 at Stocks Res. on 4th April (FAW). The species occurred at several other places in small numbers not exceeding 10.

71. Smew *Mergus albellus*

1 at Hornsea Mere from 14th to 18th January (WFC). 3 on 24th January (WFC). 1♂ on 7th February. A pair on 14th February and a ♂ on 1st March (MGH, AWW, SGW). 1♂ on 19th and 20th November and 1 on 25th December (WFC). 1 at Tunstall on 17th January (BSP). 2 "redheads" on Lockwood Beck Res. from 31st January to 15th February (PJS. *et al.*), and 1 from 1st to 15th March (DGB. *et al.*). 1 at South Gare on 21st October (NJ, BF) and 1 at Scaling Dam from 28th to 31st October (DGB, NJ). 1 at Almholme throughout January, February and up to 29th March and 1 from 13th December to year end (JP, ML, RJR). 1 at Blackmoorfoot Res. from 29th March to 16th April (MJP, KAN). 1 at Fairburn Ings from 1st to 3rd January and a ♂ from 13th December to year-end (CW. *et al.*). 1 at Knotford Nook from 7th February to 10th March (PSW) and 1 at Harewood on 1st March.

73. Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*

The "Estuary Enquiry" counts on the Humber/Ouse north bank from Spurn to Goole showed the following monthly figures: 131 on 16th January, 531 on 15th February, 711 on 15th March, 410 on 12th April, 406 on 20th September, 380 on 18th October,

312 on 8th November and 77 on 9th December (per DBC). Birds on the Humber Wildfowl Refuge totalled 25 on 3rd January, 38 on 15th March, 70 on 1st August, 160 on 30th September, 181 on 15th October, 112 on 1st November and 37 on 26th December (ACh, BSP). Up to 250 in July in the Welton area of the river. On the Humber at Spurn; 133 on 22nd January, 122 on 1st February, numbers falling off to low double figures by April. Birds were flying east in June, July and August with 40 on 21st June and 100 on11th July as daily maxima. 550 on Bran Sands, Teesmouth on 11th January (WN). 126 flew north off Scarborough on 23rd December (FJT).

Inland, the usual small numbers (1 to 8 birds) occurred at several places in most months, the only notable occurrences being 32 flying west over Fairburn Ings and 17 flying west over Swillington Ings on 3rd January.

75. Grey Lag Goose *Anser anser*

After 18 at Hornsea Mere on 22nd October there were up to 24 during the rest of the month and up to 90 by 11th November falling off to 68 on 20th November with 1 on 22nd and 25th November (WFC). 17 on the Humber Wilfdowl Refuge on 19th February and single figures there on 4 dates in September and October (ACh). 64 at South Gare on 21st October (BF, NJ). 26 at Scaling Dam on 11th November and 24 on 25th November (BF, NJ, KF). 68 flew S.W. over Rodley near Leeds on 25th January and 20 flew N.E. over Cookridge on 3rd March. 32 at Fairburn Ings on 4th October and 18 on 21st November (CW. *et al.*). 25 flew S.W. over Hetchell Wood on 7th November (RAC). 40 flew over Harrogate on 2nd December. 10 flew N.W. over Gouthwaite Res. on 13th December (MRS, AFGW). The species was identified at 10 other places in low single figures mainly January to March and October to December.

10 moulting with Canada Geese at Scar House Res. in June and 15 grazing at Farnham G.P. on 20th June (AFGW, RE) were more than likely birds released by W.A.G.B.I.

76. White-fronted Goose *Anser albifrons*

10 near Patrington on 2nd January with 4 there on 10th and 7 on 15th (AWW). 1 at Kilnsea on 10th February. 2 at Hornsea Mere on 23rd and 24th October. 9 south over the sea at Hornsea on 16th October. 13 flew into Hornsea Mere from the north on 19th November, 8 of which were adults of the Greenland race *A. a. flavirostris*. 2 on the mere on 3rd December (WFC).

78. Pink-footed Goose *Anser brachyrhynchus*

On the Humber Wildfowl Refuge, 380 in January, 750 on 20th February, 1,090 on 27th February, 160 on 3rd March and 11 on 15th March. Heard calling over the area on 16th September. 39 were seen on 17th September building up to the peak of 2,600 on 21st October and 2,220 on 26th October (compare with 1969 peak of 4,100 on 2nd October and 4,900 on 4th October). Birds gradually dropped in numbers during November to 170 by 15th December. A sudden increase to 2,826 on 20th December compares with a similar rise to 1,500 on 28th December 1969. 280 on 24th December and 180 on 26th December (ACh, BSP). 64 at Hornsea Mere on 5th November and 18 south over the sea off Hornsea on 6th November (WFC).

Away from the coast several large skeins were recorded; 150 flying N.W. over Settle on 4th January (BSh) on which date 162 flew over Fairburn Ings. 60 over Burley Woodhead on 31st January (JKF). 90 West over Lindley Moor on 17th October (JED). 33 west over Wintersett Res. on 22nd November (DJS). 66 over Fairburn Ings on 21st November.

There was much movement in December (see Humber Refuge build-up on 20th) with 150 east over Horsforth on 2nd. Small skeins over Gledhow, Leeds on 3rd and 6th and 70 south over Oakwood, Leeds on 8th. 59 geese over Thorne Moor on 13th were not identified specifically but were no doubt this species as were 220 flying east over High Melton on 20th, and 100 flying west over Adwick-le-Street on 23rd.

At a farm 3 miles N.E. of Ripon, 16 on 17th December built-up to 80 on 21st December and the flock remained until the year-end (and to late January 1971) (DB).

185 "grey" geese flying west over Fairburn Ings on 18th February were not specifically identified but were more than likely Pink-feet.

79. Snow Goose *Anser caerulescens*

3 flew into Hornsea Mere on 19th November with 13 Whitefronts, cf. (WFC).

Several Lesser Snow Geese have been reported in the north-east during 1971 and are obviously "escaped" birds. The 3 above are published with this proviso.

80. Brent Goose *Branta bernicla*

1 flew south at Bridlington on 31st January (RHAp, FJT). An injured bird stayed on Filey Brig from 14th February to 4th April (RHAp. *et al.*). 3 at Filey on 14th March. At Spurn 1 on 1st and 7th January and 3 on 9th January, 1 from 1st to 11th February, 2 from 2nd to 8th March and 4 on 15th March. 11 flew south on 28th November. All appeared to be of the dark bellied race *B. b. bernicla*. 7 at South Gare on 5th and 6th September (JK. *et al.*). 6 there on 18th October and 2 on 21st October were of the pale bellied race *B. b. hrota* (BF, NJ). 5 on the sea at Hornsea on 6th November were dark bellied, and there were 2 on the Mere on 11th November (WFC). A dark bellied bird was on the Humber Wildfowl Refuge on 2nd December (ACh).

81. Barnacle Goose *Branta leucopsis*

More records this year than ever before; 21 at Hornsea Mere on 8th January (WFC), 1 on the cliff top at Filey on 28th February (RHAP, FJT) and 4 at Muston for several days from 1st March (JT), were the only ones in the beginning of the year.

October brought several records starting with 4 at Gouthwaite Res. on the 3rd and 1 at Fairburn Ings on the 4th. There were 3 at Gouthwaite on the 23rd and 1 from 24th to 26th (AFGW. *et al.*). 7 on the Humber Wildfowl Refuge on 7th October and 3 on the 15th (ACh). 9 flew off N.W. from Hury Res. on 13th (CSW). 14 came in from the sea and flew inland at Skipsea on 19th October (JF), on which date 8 flew north at Redcar and 12 were on the lagoon at South Gare (SCN). 14 on the Humber Refuge on 22nd October were no doubt those seen at Skipsea on the 19th (ACh). 3 at Tophill Low Res. from 23rd to 29th October (PWI), and 18 were on the Humber Refuge from 24th to 26th October, 20 on 29th, 19 on the 31st and 18 on 1st November (ACh). 2 were on Scaling Dam from 31st October to 4th November (NJ. *et al.*). 1 at Hornsea Mere from 5th to 20 November (WFC). 3 at Leighton Res. from 15th November to 14th December (RHA, PJC).

82. Canada Goose *Branta canadensis*

The main Yorkshire strongholds of this species, Gouthwaite Res., Leighton Res., The Washburn Valley, Ripley Park Lake, Farnham G.P. area, Harewood Park Lake, Bretton Park Lake, and the Wentworth Estate, held the usual large numbers, 476 at Farnham G.P. on 18th October being the largest concentration. The Canada Goose Study Group of Yorkshire carried out "round-ups" of moulting birds in July and again there were several interesting re-traps and controls of geese ringed on the Beauly Firth in Scotland and vice-versa (AFGW).

84. Mute Swan *Cygnus olor*

The maximum at Hornsea Mere was 136 on 31st July (JESW) and at Fairburn Ings, 133 on 22nd July (CW). 48 on Tophill Low Res. on 13th December (AWW). 5 were on the sea off Spurn on 8th November.

85. Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus*

The Lower Derwent floods attracted 4 on 14th February and 13 adults on 22nd. 22 to 24 birds from 1st to 15th March. 4 adults on 22nd March and 3 on 29th (HOB). 91 flew south over Hornsea Mere on 2nd January (WFC). 16 on the Humber mud at Easington on 15th February (JH). 10 flew up the coast at Spurn on 21st February. 22 at Broomhill Flash on 4th January and present there in smaller numbers until mid March (DJS). Almholme had 5 from 1st to 4th January, 12 on 24th October, increasing to 20 on 1st November, declining to 8 on 11th with 7 on 30th December (RJR, JP. *et al.*).

At Fairburn Ings on 4th January, 76 were on the ice, arriving from the east in small numbers during the day (CW). Smaller numbers occurred on several other waters.

86. Bewick's Swan *Cygnus bewickii*

The Lower Derwent floods had 37 (3 immature) on 18th January, 85 (5 immature) on 1st February, 108 on 8th, 130 on 14th, 125 on 22nd, 130 on 28th, 144 on 1st March, 163 on 8th and 145 on the 15th. The birds departed during the next few days and only 3 adults were left by 22nd March. 4 on 29th were the last seen (HOB, JF. *et al.*).

At Hornsea Mere, there were 3 on 5th January, 11 on 16th and 1 on 14th February. 3 on 31st October were first of the winter there, with 11 on 5th November, 17 on 19th and 4 on 23rd (WFC. *et al.*). 23 at Paull on the Humber on 8th November (BSP). 11 at Knotford Nook G.P. on 17th December (PSW). At Fairburn, 52 were on the ice

with Whoopers on 4th January, but only 8 remained by the 6th. 19 (3 immature) at Semerwater on 9th November (DTM). Maximum numbers only given, smaller numbers occurring at several other waters.

89. Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos*

An immature bird was seen at Gouthwaite Res. on 6th December (PJC, PH). On 12th December it was seen to catch a rabbit (AFGW. *et al.*) and was seen next morning before flying over to Leighton Res. (The bird was still in the Gouthwaite area in January 1971.) This is the first occurrence of the species in Yorkshire since 1902 and coincides with breeding in Cumberland in 1970 and the fact that one or two birds wintered in relatively low ground in S.W. Scotland (per AFGW).

91. Buzzard *Buteo buteo*

7 pairs nested in the north-west. 3 pairs are known to have reared 5 young; 2 nests were robbed. A single bird frequented a site throughout the summer in Wensleydale and 1 to 2 birds were frequently seen during the summer in Wharfedale.

Several sightings in the north-west during the winter months including a party of 5. In Upper Nidderdale, seen mainly singly, in most months with 3 in August, and November. 1 recorded at Settle in December.

Away from the high ground, singles were reported from Fairburn on 15th January, over Harrogate Stray on 29th May, near Thornton on 6th June, at Lissett on 18th June, near Grantley on 21st June, near Bardsey in early September, Brough on 14th September, Flamborough in early September, Burneston from 13th to 16th September, Brompton on 3rd October, Patrington on 7th October, Lebberston (shot) on 9th October, Bempton on 19th October, near Harrogate on 21st October, Bingley in late October, and near Thruscross on 31st December.

1 was at Spurn Point on 2nd and 25th September. 1 to 3 birds wintered near Patrington and 1 to 2 birds reported from the Wolds during the winter months.

93. Sparrow Hawk *Accipiter nisus*

An encouraging number of records was received from all parts of the county covering all months. Sightings was mainly of single birds but 4 near Patrington on 10th January. Only 3 successful breeding records were submitted but birds were seen at several places in the summer months and more must have bred. If left unmolested by those who purport to "Keep" game the species is now in a good position.

94. Goshawk *Accipter gentilis*

A bird found injured near Easington on 3rd October, was claimed by a Lincolnshire falconer.

99. Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus*

A ♂ flew over Thorne Moor on 12th April (RJR). 1 flew east at Fairburn Ings on 25th May (CW. *et al.*). 1 flew south at Spurn on 30th May. A "cream-crown" at Wath Ings on 2nd August (DJS, JL, PW) and 1 at Rathmell Marsh, near Settle from 21st to 26th September (BSh, SR). 1 flew north at South Gare on 25th October (WN, DWW).

100. Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*

Records during the winter months, January to April and October to December, were too numerous to publish in detail, birds being seen singly on 36 occasions from every vice-county.

102. Montague's Harrier *Circus pygargus*

Single birds were seen in V.C. 61 on 4 dates in May and June, 1 was at Spurn on 14th and 15th July and 1 on 21st September. Seen singly in Wharfedale on 2 dates in June. A pair attempted to breed in long grass in S.E. Holderness but failed.

103. Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*

Several birds passed through the county this year; 1 at Gouthwaite Res. on 5th and 6th May (AFGW. *et al.*). 1 at Castle Howard on 16th May (RHAp, PH, FJT). 2 at Blaxton G.P. on 17th May (KJH). 1 at Fairburn Ings on 13th June (CW. *et al.*). 1 returned to Gouthwaite Res. on 24th July and stayed to 2nd August with another on 12th September. 1 at Ripley lake during September (AFGW. *et al.*). 1 at Swinsty Res. from 4th to 7th August (FAW, GTF). 1 flew north at Redcar on 14th August (TB) and 1 came in off the sea at South Gare on 21st October (SCN).

104. Hobby *Falco subbuteo*

At Spurn, single birds passed on 16th and 30th May, 6th and 20th June, 2nd and 3rd July, 9th August and 24th September. 1 flew over Easington on 21st May. 1 at

Fairburn Ings on 23rd May left to the east (CW. *et al.*), as did a juvenile at Low Ellers Carr on 18th August (II, RA). A juvenile flew south at Filey on 22nd August (RHAp, LGD. *et al.*).

105. Peregrine *Falco peregrinus*

Several records from vice-county 65; 1 at Cronkley on 1st March (CGW). 1 near Tan Hill on 18th April. 1 at High Force, Teesdale during December lived off a large flock of Wood Pigeons (CSW). A pair showed interest in a cliff face near Aysgarth on 14th May but not seen subsequently (DTM). Single birds seen on several occasions during the summer at Cautley Crag but no evidence of breeding. 1 at Leighton Res. on 12th December (PJC, PAH). 1 to 2 birds seen on several dates in spring in Upper Wharfedale.

Away from the high ground of the north-west the species was seen singly at East Park, Hull on 25th March, where 2 had been seen on 4th March (AWW), Fairburn Ings on 21st March, Spurn on 19th October, Hornsea on 22nd October and Hornsea Mere on 18th November (WFC). The bird which roosted on Arthington Viaduct (near Otley) in December 1969 was recorded up to 28th March. The origin of this bird must be dubious.

107. Merlin *Falco columbarius*

Only 4 nests were reported. Birds often seen during the breeding season in several other suitable areas without proof of breeding.

Singles reported from 24 places covering every vice-county mainly in May and October. At Tunstall, 3 flew north on 9th May and on the following day 1 flew north and 2 flew out to sea (AWW).

110. Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*

Continues to do well and increase in some areas. The breeding records which reached me showed success in all cases with good brood sizes.

111. Red Grouse *Lagopus lagopus*

900 brace shot on Bingley, Hawksworth and Burley Moors despite extensive damage caused by fires in breeding season (JWM). 108 in low lying fields at Rathmell on 24th July (BSh).

113. Black Grouse *Lyrurus tetrix*

A Greyhen at Staining Gill, Nidderdale on 5th February (WWG). 3 on Great Whernside on 25th October (GDO) and 1 shot at Sawley on 30th November (per AFGW). 8 near Buckden on 15th February (PCQ) were the first definite records for Wharfedale. 1 near Grimwith Res. on 12th September (MVB). Maximum numbers at the Tan Hill lek were 9 cocks on 11th April. 3 in Upper Teesdale on 27th March (VFB). 4 near Sedbergh on 30th December (SS). A Greyhen on Ilton Moor on 7th October and 1 at Roundill on 15th October (PY). No records were received this year from the Forest of Bowland.

115. Red-legged Partridge *Alectoris rufa*

Spurn recorded more birds than for some years, but only 1 to 2 seen on 3 dates in March, 3 in April and 1 in September. 1 pair at Rudston on 10th May (AJW) and South Gare, where there was a pair in the dunes on 25th May (LM). Recorded from 15 places in vice-county 63. 30 were with 70 *Perdix* on 29th September at Blaxton (CL, TP). Reported from 3 sites in lower Nidderdale and on Sawley High Moor in May. A cover of 10 at Hetchell Crags on 19th September. A pair in an Ilton garden on 1st May and a covey of *c.* 10 chicks there on 1st July (PY).

116. Partridge *Perdix perdix*

Several observers reported a good breeding season with prolific coveys and assembled flocks including 70 together on 29th September at Blaxton (CL, TP), 68 on edge of Thorne Moor on 31st December (ML), and 40 at Hampsthwaite on 25th July.

117. Quail *Coturnix coturnix*

1 calling at High Melton on 6th and 13th June (WGO). 1 heard at Kettlethorpe on 23rd June (JAB). 1 heard at Wath Ings on 12th July (JIM, DJS). 1 called regularly on Eccup Moor from 20th June until 17th July (ECS. *et al.*). 2 birds calling *ca.* ¼ mile apart at East Cowton on 27th and 28th May (HTS). 1 calling at Brompton-on-Swale on 16th June (GDM). 1 seen near Streetham on 15th August (PSE).

119. Crane *Grus grus*

One flew low over Fairburn Ings on 6th August before leaving to the east (CW. *et al.*).

120. Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*

Wideley reported from all suitable localities throughout the county, with the majority of sightings in the winter months, principally in October when birds are on the move. 25 were estimated from calls at Fairburn Ings on 25th October (CW. *et al.*). 2 pairs were proved to breed on Low Ellers Nature Reserve (RA, II).

121. Spotted Crake *Porzana porzana*

1 at Spurn on 26th August was caught and ringed and was last seen on 1st September. 1 at Fairburn Ings from 27th August to 18th October (CW. *et al.*). 1 was found dead at Clapham in October and was inspected by B. Shorrock. 1 at Hornsea Mere on 19th November (WFC).

123. Baillon's Crake *Porzana pusilla*

1 at Fairburn Ings from 6th to 13th June (CW. *et al.*). Accepted by "BB" Rarities Committee.

125. Corncrake *Crex crex*

A bird calling at Kelfield Grange during April and May (EJB). 1 calling for several days from 6th May at Arthington (LM). 1 at Spurn on 6th June and 1 on 10th August.

126. Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*

A leucistic bird seen by the river at Knotford Nook between 24th February and 28th May had a pale brown back and ash-grey underparts (FAW, PSW).

127. Coot *Fulica atra*

Hornsea Mere held the largest numbers with smaller concentrations at Fairburn Ings and Knotford Nook G.P. Maxima at Hornsea Mere were 450 in January, 680 on 25th October, 850 on 15th November, 2,100 on 6th December and up to 1,000 at year-end (WFC, BSP). Maximum at Fairburn Ings were 500 on 6th January to 600 in July and 975 on 18th October (CW. *et al.*). Knotford Nook held up to 318 in January, 242 in February, with 200 to 225 from October to year end. Several other waters had smaller peaks. 1 was on the sea off Spurn on 21st July.

131. Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*

On the Humber at Spurn, maximum numbers were 350 in January, 860 in February, 800 in March, 500 in April, 310 on 2nd May falling to low double figures by mid May. An increase at end of August and 230 by 24th September. 250 in October, 300 on 10th November and 110 on 6th December. Birds were seen passing south off Spurn daily during August (except 31st), with 2,579 birds involved. Smaller numbers passed to 15th September.

250 at Patrington Haven on 30th March (AWW) and 300 at South Gare on 1st September (DAJ, GLC) were the only other large coastal flocks.

Inland, the species occurred at most major waters, in small numbers mainly at times of passage. There were several breeding records mainly from the north-west and the south-east. Appears to be increasing as a breeding species and would repay investigation into its exact status.

133. Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*

The usual numbers occurred in the winter months and from July onwards when post-breeding flocks gathered. The largest numbers were 2,500 near Long Preston and 750 at Settle S.F. on 24th January (FAW), 3,000 at Settle on 19th August (BSh), 700 at Chelker Res. on 20th September and 1,100 there on 28th November. 1,170 flew over Thorne Moor on 13th December. 500 at Pool during October and December. 1,000 at Denton on 16th December. 3,882 flew south over Fairburn Ings during cold weather on 24th December (CW).

134. Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*

10 pairs bred or attempted to do so at Spurn point but very few young reared. Indications of breeding at 2 sites on the Holderness coast. Eggs found on the Humber west of Hull, the first proved estuary breeding in the Upper Humber (per HOB). 3 pairs nested in King George V Dock, Hull (BSP). A pair laid eggs at Settle but the nest was destroyed (BSh). Of 6 birds present at Gouthwaite Res. on 22nd June, a female made a scrape but did not breed (AFGW). A pair bred successfully at a Catterick gravel

pit and reared one chick; the first breeding record for vice-county 65 (PJS). The species bred normally at Teesmouth.

Passage inland occurred at several waters mainly April to May and August and September. Numbers involved were usually low single figures but extensive mud at Gouthwaite Res. attracted 8 on 21st May. 12 from 27th to 29th and 10 on 1st June (AFGW). Fairburn Ings had 42 from 25th to 28th May (CW).

136. Little-ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*

The first birds of the spring were 3 at Farnham G.P. on 27th March where 3 broods were hatched (RE). Several previous breeding sites were deserted in 1970 and new sites were occupied. At Gouthwaite Res. where the species had only been previously recorded once in 1951, 3 pairs nested in 1970, rearing 6 young (AFGW).

There was no record of definite breeding in vice-county 61 but two pairs were seen to display at King George Dock on 2nd May (AWW) and on Melton foreshore, where the species bred in 1969 (per DBC). No breeding records for vice-county 62. 6 pairs bred in vice-county 63 (3 at established sites and 3 from new sites). Vice-county 64 had the most breeding sites; Fairburn Ings, Swillington Ings, Knostrop, Otley, Gouthwaite Res., Farnham G.P. and Hay-a-Park G.P. Vice-county 65 had 4 pairs one of which was on river shingle.

Birds occurred on passage at several waters, sewage farms and gravel pits in small numbers and the last was one near Doncaster on 30th September.

136. Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus*

1 at Fairburn Ings on 16th May (CW. *et al.*) and 1 at Spurn on 30th May.

139. Grey Plover *Charadrius squatarola*

Occurred normally on the coast, 98 flying north off Redcar in a gale on 3rd November being the only record of note (SCN).

Inland the species occurred singly at Fairburn Ings on 26th April and 12th May (CW), at Lindley Res. on 9th December (PJC), and 1 on arable land with Golden Plovers at Winestead on 3rd January (AWW).

140. Golden Plover *Charadrius apricaria*

Several large flocks were reported in the winter months; 300 at Bentley Tilts on 11th February, 200 at Norwood Lane on 18th March and 300 near Harrogate from 1st to 23rd April. 150 at Settle S.F. on 27th April showed characters of the northern race (BSh), as did 200 on Whinmoor, near Leeds during April. 300 at Hangthwaite on 2nd March and 350 there on 2nd November. 400 on Rigton High Moor during early October, 300 at Beckwithshaw on 3rd October, 35 at Redcar on 24th October, 900 in Penny Pot Lane on 24th November and up to 800 still there in early December. 1,400 on ploughed land at Swillington in mid-December. 500 at Pool-in-Wharfedale on 27th December. 220 flew south at Fairburn Ings during cold weather on 24th December (*see* Lapwing).

142. Dotterel *Charadrius morinellus*

3 on a ploughed field north of Strensall, near York on 11th May (LS).

143. Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

61 on the rocks of South Bay, Scarborough on 1st January (JFC). 40 at Filey on 3rd January was an exceptionally high number for the Brig (RHAp). The "Estuary Count" on 11th January gave a total of 208 along the North Humber shore (Spurn to Goole) (per DBC). 120 at South Gare on 15th August (BF). At Spurn; 241 on 25th August, 182 on 28th September and 160 on 17th October were maximum figures.

Inland records came from Fairburn Ings where the species occurred in small numbers from early May to 8th June with 7 on 25th May as maximum and a few passed during July and August (CW. *et al.*). 1 at Settle S.F. on 17th April and 13th May (BSh). 1 at Blackmoorfoot Res. on 25th and 26th July, 1 at Knostrop on 26th August, and at Gouthwaite Res. where 8 occurred on 26th July (AFBW). 1 was at Hay-a-Park G.P. on 26th July (RE).

145. Snipe *Capella gallinago*

Concentrations of 50 to 80 birds reported from several areas during the winter months. 200 at Low Ellers Carr on 20th December with up to 100 to year end. Autumn movement was reflected at Hampsthwaite S.F. during August and September when numbers increased from 40 in July to 200 by mid-August, declining to 50 in September and October.

147. Jack Snipe *Lymnocryptes minimus*

Up to 2 birds, but mainly singles occurred at 21 localities in the winter months. The last of spring was 1 on Thorne Moor on 19th April and the first of autumn was 1 at Hornsea Mere on 19th September (HOB). 8 at Hornsea Mere on 19th November and 6 at Adwick-le-Street S.F. on 29th December were maximum seen together.

148. Woodcock *Scalopax rusticola*

Bred successfully in all parts of the county, commonest in vice-counties 63 and 64. 30 at Hornsea Mere on 14th February was noteworthy (WFC).

150. Curlew *Numenuis arquata*

The "Estuary Enquiry" on the North Shore of the Humber from Spurn to Goole showed the following numbers: 241 on 11th January, 942 on 15th February, 671 on 15th March, 867 on 12th April, 1,557 on 20th September, 415 on 18th October, 278 on 8th November and 559 on 6th December (per DBC). The usual concentration at Settle autumn had a maximum of 1,500 on 14th September (BSh). The Gouthwaite Res. wintering flock was up to 40 strong in January and February with up to 70 in March and 60 on 5th April when birds are passing inland to the breeding areas and were also recorded in smaller numbers at several waters, gravel pits etc. The Gouthwaite flock comprised up to 120 birds on 2nd November, and 113 on 16th December. (AFGW, PJC. *et al.*).

151. Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*

Birds were recorded flying over, from several places in spring both on the coast and inland, between 17th April and end of May with a few at Spurn up to 12th June. 20 at Cherry Cob on the Humber on 3rd May was the largest number seen together in spring.

Autumn records started with 1 on 1st July at Spurn whereafter the species was recorded from 9 coastal and 11 inland places, mainly singly but 6 birds over Thorne Moor on 23rd August (RJR) and 8 over Kirkstall, near Leeds on 2nd September.

At Spurn, the maximum counts were; 110 on 26th July, 56 on 8th August, 54 on 16th and 20 on 4th September.

154. Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*

Only recorded at 4 coastal localities; 1 at Cherry Cob on 9th April, 1 at Brough Salting on 17th May and 1 at Patrington Haven on 23rd May. Up to 2 birds at the East Hull Salting on 15th, 21st and 28th September. Inland, the most spectacular record was 65 birds in summer plumage at Settle on 26th April with 3 staying up to the 29th (BSh). 1 to 2 birds occurred at Spurn, Scarborough, Wath Ings, Fairburn Ings and Gouthwaite Res. in April and May, and July to September with 7 at Fairburn Ings on 3rd September the only number exceeding two.

155. Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*

The North Humber shore from Spurn to Hull, held 27 on 11th January, 132 on 15th February, 227 on 15th March, only 4 seen in mid-April; 140 on 20th September and *ca.* 40 to year-end (per DBC). 209 at Cherry Cob on 15th March. At Teesmoth, 142 on Bran Sands on 4th January (PJS, ECG). On 18th January 727 were on Bran Sands, 715 of these in one flock, the largest number ever seen on the Yorkshire side of the Tees. 246 were there on 15th September (SCN).

At Spurn; maximum on the Humber during January-March was 34 on 17th January. 50 on 14th September and 26 on 8th November were maxima of autumn. Birds were seen passing south off-shore during July, August and September in small numbers.

Inland, the species occurred at Fairburn Ings on 10th May, the only record of spring. More were seen in autumn with 2 flying west over Low Ellers Carr on 5th July (SP), 1 at Blackmoorfoot Res. on 22nd and 23rd July (DP, SP, FD), with 2 there on 30th August (DWC, JED, NL), 1 on Thorne Moor on 23rd August (RJR), 4 at Wath Ings on 7th September (JIM), 1 at Lindley Res. from 22nd to 29th August (FAW, MES), 1 at Gouthwaite Res. on 25th July (AFGW), 1 at Fairburn Ings on 5th August and 27th September and 1 at Settle on 10th September and 1 from 24th to 26th September (BSh).

156. Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*

Widely reported from 41 places covering the whole county, but mainly in vice-counties 63 and 64, in all months, principally March to May and August to October. 1 at Fairburn Ings on 19th June was the only bird in the county that month. Maxima

were 7 at Hampsthwaite S.F. on 17th August, with 6 on the 18th; 14 on Thorne Moor from 4th to 23rd August, 6 at Staveley S.F. on 13th September and 8 at Spurn on 3rd August and 5 on 5th August.

157. Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*

Singles occurred at Low Ellers Carr on 26th April, Flamborough on 10th May (HOB, JF), Coatham Marsh from 12th to 15th May (WN, SCN), Fairburn Ings on 10th May (2), and 12th May (CW. *et al.*), Summerlodge Tarn on 13th May (DTM) and at Spurn where there was 1 on 10th May, 2 on 11th and 1 on 16th, the latter being in "song-flight" over Clubley's field. 1 on 23rd May completed the passage. 6 at Settle S.F. on 12th May was spring maximum (BSh).

Singles were reported in June from Low Ellers Carr on 22nd, and Fairburn on 19th, 20th and 29th. Occurred at 14 other places from July to early September, mainly singly but 7 on Coatham Marsh on 8th July (SCN) and 8 at Fairburn on 21st August (CW. *et al.*).

159. Common Sandpiper *Tringa hypoleucos*

The first was one at Gouthwaite Res. on 13th April (AFGW). The main arrival date was 16th April when reports came from several waters and the species was well "in" by 19th April. Seen at Fairburn regularly up to 4th October with 1 at South Gare on 21st October, and 1 on East Hull Salting on 31st October, the last reported. 55 at Gouthwaite Res. at end of July (declining steadily during August) was by far the largest number recorded at one place (AFGW).

161. Redshank *Tringa totanus*

Occurred commonly at most coastal areas, especially in the Humber estuary, where Spurn had up to 150 in January and 200 in March. Autumn figures there were higher with 300 during September and October.

Continues to occur inland with more frequency during the winter months, 1 to 4 birds occurring at Winteresett Res. Stanley S.F., Low Ellers Carr, Almholme and Gouthwaite Res. Settle S.F. had 23 on 12th November, 32 on 27th November (in one flock) with *ca.* 12 others in area, and 25 on 3rd December (BSh).

162. Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*

1 at Cherry Cobb Sands on 11th January (BSP), and 1 to 2 birds in April and May at Cherry Cob Sands (BSP), North Ferriby (DBC), Fairburn Ings (CW. *et al.*), and Settle S.F. (BSh). 1 at Spurn on 20th June.

Occurred more frequently in Autumn with 1 to 5 birds from July to October at Spurn, Cherry Cobb Sands, North Ferriby, Bempton, Filey, Tunstall, Beverley S.F., Knostrop S.F., Eccup Res., Almholme, Low Ellers Carr, Thorne Moor, Wath Ings, Ripon S.F., Farnham G.P., Bolton-on-Swale G.P., Seamer G.P., Cornelian Bay and Scaling Dam with 3 birds at Hornsea Mere on 2nd November and 1 at Sunk Island on 18th November.

165. Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

Very few reported on Spring passage; singles in April and May at Beverley S.F., East Hull Salting, Lissett, Bempton, Hornsea Mere, Welton Water and Spurn, with singles inland at Knotford Nook G.P. from 17th to 22nd May and 3 at Winteresett Res. on 3rd and 12th May. At Fairburn, 1 to 3 birds occurred from 18th April to 16th May.

Occurred more widely in autumn with 1 to 6 birds at many localities from July to October. 14 at Wath Ings on 29th August and 12 there on 1st September was maximum inland. At Spurn one flock of 22, followed by two flocks of 4 each flew south on 21st August and a further 4 were at the point.

169. Knot *Calidris canutus*

The "Estuary Enquiry" count from Spurn to Goole provided figures of 4,100 on on 11th January, 7,872 on 15th February, 9,280 on 15th March, 205 on 12th April; 175 on 20th September, 812 on 18th October, 373 on 8th November and 6,850 on 6th December. Occurred daily at Spurn up to 20th April with 1,000 on 25th January, 800 on 2nd February and 1,200 on 2nd March as monthly maxima. Maxima at year-end were 1,500 on 14th November and 1,000 on 21st December. Southward passage off-shore occurred from July to October, with 669 birds on 25th July and 978 on 16th August.

Inland, singles occured at Bolton-on-Swale G.P. on 21st August (AWH), Chelker Res., on 2nd September (FAW), Gouthwaite Res. on 28th November (PJC), and at Fairburn Ings on several dates in May, with a party of 23 on 10th May. Also occurred at Fairburn Ings in autumn, with 6 on 1st August and single birds from 3rd to 10th August and on 24th August and 18th October (CW. *et al.*).

170. Purple Sandpiper *Calidris maritima*

Filey Brig, Scarborough and South Gare were the main stations for the species. Filey had a maximum of 51 on 14th February and up to 40 regularly until 4th April (RHAp). 50 on 5th December was the largest flock at the year-end (RV). 67 were in the South Bay, Scarborough on 1st January and 60 in Cornelian Bay, Scarborough on 3rd January (FJT). 30 at South Gare on 17th April (SCN) was the maximum seen there. The first of autumn was 1 at Spurn on 6th August with 2 at Filey on 8th August the next.

171. Little Stint *Calidris minuta*

A good year for the species with records coming from 23 localities covering most of the county. The majority of records were from V.C. 61 with 1 to 3 birds at 7 localites from mid-August to 30th September, 15 at East Hull Salting on 28th September being the county's maximum. V.C. 62 had 1 to 3 birds at 4 localities on 8 dates from 6th July to 24th August. V.C. 63 had 1 to 3 birds at 4 localities; Blackmoorfoot Res., Stanley S.F., Wath Ings and Blaxton G.P. on 19 dates between 25th July and 12th October on which latter date there was 1 at Blaxton G.P. and 3 at Blackmoorfoot Res. V.C. 64 had 1 to 3 birds at 7 places on several dates between mid-July and end of September. V.C. 65 produced 1 record only, a single bird at Bolton-on-Swale G.P. on 27th September.

173. Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii*

1 at Kilnsea on 16th May (GED, MGH. *et al.*).

176. Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos*

3 at Cherry Cob on 27th September (AWW, RGW). There were several in Co. Durham at this period.

178. Dunlin *Calidris alpina*

The "Estuary Count" from Spurn to Goole showed the following figures: 11,980 on 11th January, 12,520 on 15th February, 11,422 on 15th March, 7,887 on 12th April, 4,194 on 20th September, 6,513 on 18th October, 6,524 on 8th November and 8,918 on 6th December. 173 at Filey Brig on 3rd January was an exceptional flock for the locality (RHAp).

Occurred on passage at several inland localities, Fairburn Ings and Gouthwaite Res. attracting most birds; 21 at Fairburn on 22nd July was the maximum there (CW. *et al.*). Gouthwaite had birds from 31st March to year-end with up to 40 during June, up to 38 in July, up to 10 during August and September, and 23 on 4th October with small numbers to year-end (AFGW. *et al.*).

5 breeding pairs were reported from V.Cs. 64 and 65.

179. Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris testacea*

From 1 to 5 occurred at 6 places on the Humber estuary between 23rd August and 18th October with 10 at East Hull Salting on 28th September (AWW). Spurn had 3 on 6th August and singles on 5 dates to 19th September. There were 3 on Coatham Marsh on 20th July and 8 on the Yorkshire side of the Tees on 23rd August. 3 were in Jacksons Bay, Scarborough on 26th August.

Inland, 1 occurred at Gouthwaite Res. on 22nd June (PJC), from 22nd to 29th August (FAW) and 1st September (MW). 2 at Farnham G.P. on 20th September (RE). 2 on Thorne Moor on 23rd August (RJR), 1 at Wath Ings on 26th and 27th September (DJS), 1 at Blaxton G.P. on 29th September (CL, TP), 2 at Knostrop S.F. on 5th and 11th September and 1 at Settle S.F. on 14th September (BSh).

181. Sanderling *Crocethia alba*

The maxima at Spurn were 40 on 27th July, 53 on 1st August, 66 on 18th September and 34 on 19th October. *ca.* 80 occurred on Bridlington beach during the winter.

Inland records came from Gouthwaite Res. where there were singles on 24th May, 24th June, 22nd August, 1st September and 3 birds on 18th August. 1 at Cupwith Res. on 24th May. Singles at Blackmoorfoot Res. on 24th and 10th August, and at Stanley S.F. on 7 dates between 26th July and 21st September.

184. Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*

Spring records were few with 2 at Leventhorpe on 27th February and 7th March, 1 at Wheldrake Ings on 22nd March (HOB), 4 near Patrington on 11th April (AWW), 7 on Coatham Marsh on 22nd February (DGB. *et al.*) and 6 there on 6th April (WW). Inland were 3 at Settle on 28th April, 2 on 29th, 3 on 1st May and 1 on 8th May. 2 were on Thorne Moor on 30th May and 1 at Low Ellers Carr on 18th June and 2 from 21st to 30th June. In autumn, the species occurred at 11 coastal and 13 inland localities

between mid-July and mid-October. Maxima were 25 on Coatham Marsh on 2nd August and 30 there on 21st August and 26 at Brough Haven on 6th September. The only inland record in excess of 3 birds was of 7 on Thorne Moor on 13th August.

185. Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*

2 flew south at Spurn on 31st May.

187. Grey Phalarope *Phalaropus fulicarius*

1 at Spurn from 10th to 16th September was an adult in winter plumage, badly oiled on the head and neck. 1 at Filey Brig on 24th October (RHAp, FJT, RL), was still there on 31st October (RL). 1 at Jackson's Bay, Scarborough on 30th October (DIF) and again from 13th to 16th November and on 22nd November (RHAp, FJT, IP). 1 in Scarborough Harbour on 27th December (AJW).

1 at Gouthwaite Res. on 21st November (DJS).

193. Arctic Skua *Stercorarius parasiticus*

Spurn recorded the only birds of spring passage: Singles on 22nd, 23rd and 30th May. In autumn the species was recorded off the major coastal watch-points in varying numbers depending on weather conditions, most birds moving during strong N.W. to N.E. winds. Birds passed between 3rd July and early November with the peaks occurring in August and September. Spurn showed the highest numbers with 237 on 17th August and 137 on 5th September, by far the largest figures for the county. Elsewhere, up to 30 birds on any one day was usual.

194. Great Skua *Stercorarius skua*

1 off Filey on 24th January (RHAp, FJT) was the only bird seen until 1 at Spurn on 13th June, whereafter the species occurred in small numbers off the coast regularly up to end of October. The maxima were 9 off Filey and 10 off Spurn on 3rd October at which last place there were 13 on 20th October, and the last, 1 on 7th November.

195. Pomarine Skua *Stercorarius pomarinus*

An adult and a juvenile flew south at Spurn on 3rd August. South Gare had 2 on 16th August, 5 on 19th August, 1 on 7th September, 1 on 20th October and 1 on 3rd November (SCN, WN. *et al.*). A dark phase adult over Broomfleet Island in the Humber on 8th November (DBC). 2 adults south off Hornsea on 20th October and 1 adult south there on 9th November (WFC).

198. Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*

Increasing numbers reported in recent years from inland sites with up to 80 birds not uncommon at Reservoirs and rubbish tips during the winter months. 150 in a field near Otley on 3rd January, a period of severe weather, was the largest flock recorded inland apart from at Fairburn Ings where the winter roost held up to 250 from January to April, 400 in November and 500 in December (CW. *et al.*).

Coastal flocks were much larger, with 600 on Coatham Marsh, Redcar on 19th July and on 15th September. 700 on Bran Sands, Teesmouth on 13th September (SCN). The maxima at Spurn were up to 550 in August, 1,500 in September and 1,200 in October.

199. Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*

50 at Nunburnholme on 8th July (LS) was a large number for V.C. 61, most birds passing through the county up the centre and west side. 400 at Fairburn Ings on 4th January, 300 at Farnham G.P. on 30th July (RE), 200 at Knotford Nook on 21st September (LM), and 250 on Leighton Res. on 10th October (FAW) were the largest concentrations reported.

Birds considered to be of the Scandinavian race *L. f. fuscus* were recorded at Spurn in April (2) May (2) July (1) August (1 to 4 on 6 dates plus 12 on 16th and 20 on 17th) and September (2).

200. Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*

42 pairs were counted on rooftops in Whitby during the breeding season (RV). Inland, the largest gatherings were 1,000 flying into Almholme in 1 hour at dusk on 1st January (RJR), 300 at Hay-a-Park G.P. on 3rd January (RE), 200 at Ilton on 4th February (PY) and 200 at Farnham G.P. on 14th February (RE). Up to 100 birds were seen at several other waters and rubbish tips during the same period.

201. Common Gull *Larus canus*

Gouthwaite and Eccup Reservoirs had the county's largest gatherings when the Gull roosts there held up to 700 in January at Gouthwaite and 1,500 at Eccup on 4th January.

Spring passage inland was reflected at several places, the largest numbers being 500 flying N.N.W. at Brignall on 21st March (VFB), and 400 at Fairburn Ings on 11th April. The Harrogate Stray flock was 420 strong on 22nd February (only 3 immature birds) and 250 (only 2 immature) were there on 13th April.

A nest with 2 eggs was found at a moorland tarn on 6th June and a pair with a newly fledged young one at another site in August.

202. Glaucous Gull *Larus hyperboreus*

Single birds were recorded from 9 coastal localities, January to May and July to year-end with 2 at Scalby Mills on 28th March (IJP). Inland, occurred singly at 6 places from January to April and at a Harrogate tip from 3rd to 9th November (GRW. *et al.*).

203. Iceland Gull *Larus glaucoides*

1 at Saltburn on 25th January (NJ), 1 immature in Scarborough Harbour on 13th March (AJW) and 1 immature in King George Dock, Hull on 15th March (AWW). Inland, from 1 to 3 birds were seen at Blackmoorfoot Res. on 18 dates between 22nd February and 25th March (JGI, JED).

205. Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephala*

An adult at South Gare on 1st March (NJ, HM), and a 1st year at Hornsea Mere on 15th and 16th October (WFC).

207. Little Gull *Larus minutus*

Numerous records from coastal localities with birds occurring inland at 4 places. Spurn had singles on 27th and 30th May, 22nd June, 4th, 18th and 25th July, 4 birds on 3rd August, 9 on 4th, 1 on 6th, 2 on 7th, 1 on 8th, 9th and 16th and 2 on 23rd. 1 on 1st, 20th and 24th September. Hornsea Mere had the most birds with 1 on 8th March, 1 on 3rd June, 6 on 12th June (GLH), 1 on 11th July, 5 on 19th July, 8 on 24th August and up to 9 on several dates to 27th September. 3 on 22nd October and 1 on 23rd and 24th October (GLH, GED, HTJ, HOB, AWW, WFC). 1 immature at Bridlington from 1st to 7th August, and adult from 8th and 10th are up to 3 birds up to 23rd August (5 individuals involved) (RL). 1 at Sewerby on 17th October, 1 at Bridlington on 20th October and 3 there on 21st October (RL). 1 at Filey Brig on 17th January (RHA). 1 there on 25th July and up to 3 birds on 8 dates to 12th September (RHAp, FJT, LGD). 1 passed off Hornsea on 6th November (WFC). 1 at Scalby Mills on 20th May (AJW) 1 at Redcar on 11th August. At least 9 individuals seen on several occasions at Scalby Mills between 15th and 31st August (DIF, RHAp). 1 in Peasholme Park on 21st October (RHAp) and 1 at South Gare on 20th and 21st October (SCN).

Inland the species occurred singly at Thorne Moor on 6th and 7th June and at Almholme on 14th June (RJR). At Fairburn Ings where singles were seen on 2nd and 3rd May, 6th and 19th June (2 on 4th June), 18th and 22nd August, 3rd September and 4th October (CW. *et al.*). An immature at Gouthwaite Res. on 16th August was the first recorded of the species for Nidderdale (PJC, SC, JGWR).

208. Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus*

Occurred normally throughout the county with large numbers involved at roosts. At Dunsdale on 24th October one took Hawthorn berries from the tree whilst hovering (DGB).

209. Sabine's Gull *Xema sabini*

An adult on the sea off Spurn with Kittiwakes on 2nd August and an immature on the Humber near the "Warren" on 17th September.

211. Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla*

Southward movements off the coast are difficult to understand. *c.* 100 flew south of Kettleness Point in 2 hours on 5th May (FJT) and 500 south off Whitby in ¾ hour on May (FJT). Similar movements were recorded off Spurn, but the impression there was that fewer birds than usual were in the area during July, August and September. Birds passed south daily in small numbers (up to 400+) during this period but on 20th October, 10,000 flew south, birds streaming past all morning.

Inland records came from Almholme where an adult occurred on 1st March (RJR), 1 at Fairburn Ings on 20th August (CW), 2 at Scar House Res. on 27th May (AFGW) and 1 at Gouthwaite Res. on 12th December (FAW).

212. Black Tern *Chlidonias niger*

Observed on spring passage at 8 inland localities in May and June, small numbers (up to 10) mostly involved but at Fairburn Ings on 6th June, easterly winds brought

34 birds. On the coast, occurred at Hornsea Mere (6 on 7th June) and Spurn where the max. was 13 flying east on 6th June, and 18 on 17th.

Autumn passage at Spurn consisted of 1 to 10 birds from 21st July to 17th August, with 16 on 8th September and 2 on 9th September. 1 to 3 birds passed during the 3rd week in August off Bridlington, Filey and Hornsea. 10 flew south at South Gare on 16th August and 5 on 2nd September. Seen at 8 inland waters in August and September, mainly 1 to 3 birds, but 10 at Blackmoorfoot Res. on 27th September as maximum.

217/218. Common Tern/Arctic Tern *Sterna hirundo/macrura*

Passage occurred normally off the coast, the maximum seen in one day being 1,185 flying south at Spurn on 17th August. Recorded at 20 inland waters from April to June and August to September (with odd birds up to 14th October) mainly 1 to 10 birds, 20 at Blackmoorfoot Res. on 21st August and 20 flying west at Settle on 12th September, being the inland maxima. A few birds were specifically identified at the inland waters, both species in equal numbers.

219. Roseate Tern *Sterna dougallii*

South Gare had 1 on 14th May, 1 on 31st July, 2 on 17th August and 3 on 10th September (SCN, DWW, WN). 1 flew west at Spurn on 9th August. Singles occurred inland at Fairburn Ings on 7th, 14th and 28th May, 20th June and 16th August (CW, *et al.*).

222. Little Tern *Sterna albifrons*

3 pairs attempted to breed at Spurn but nests were destroyed when a helicopter made an unauthorised landing on the point beach. A pair bred on the Yorkshire side of the Tees estuary (PJS). At Spurn the species occurred almost daily in May from the 3rd, with up to 10 on 10th, 15 on 23rd, 20 on 24th and 14 on 28th. Up to 9 birds present in June and in smaller numbers to 3 on 29th August. 5 on Coatham Sands on 12th July (SCN), 1 at Scarborough on 15th August and 1 south there, on 13th September (RHAp).

1 at Fairburn Ings on 20th July (CW).

223. Sandwich Tern *Sterna sandvicensis*

Passage off the coast was normal with up to 400-500 flying south almost daily at Spurn from July to September. 7 on 11th October were the last seen. Occurrences inland were, 1 at Bretton Park Lake on 17th August (GC, JM), singles at Fairburn Ings on 8th and 20th July and 17th September, and 1 adult and 2 juveniles at Knotford Nook G.P. on 18th August (PJC).

224. Razorbill *Alca torda*

Reported to be breeding again in small numbers on Filey North Cliff (per HOB). Many were killed by oil and were counted on the beaches during January, February and March (RHAp. *et al.*).

225. Guillemot *Uria aalge*

Many affected by oil during January, February and March, some corpses being completely "embalmed" (RHAp). The "mode of arrival" of one found freshly dead on March Ghyll Reservoir, near Ilkley on 4th April must be suspect. Attempts to rehabilitate oil victims from the coast may account for such occurrences inland.

226. Little Auk *Plautus alle*

Over 100 picked up dead through oil pollution along the Yorkshire coast during January, February and March.

Singles flew north off Hornsea on 20th and 21st October and 2 on 9th November (WFC). 1 seen at South Gare on 21st October and 1 on 22nd (SCN). At Spurn, 11 flew north on 21st October, 1 on 7th November and 1 on 23rd December.

232. Stock Dove *Columba oenas*

100 at Settle on 4th April was an exceptional number (BSh). 30 on stubble on Eccup Moor on 13th December.

234. Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus*

Still continues to flourish despite attempts to reduce its numbers. Several flocks of *c.* 2 to 300 were reported in the winter months in addition to 1,000 flying over Cowthorne on 22nd November. 1,500 flying S.W. over Southfield Res. on 5th December and 1,000 in Denton Park on 30th December.

235. Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur*

1 at Low Ellers Carr on 26th April was the first of year and the last was at Fairburn

Ings on 20th September. Passage at Spurn occurred in May and June with 17 on 24th May (when there were 9 at Grimston). 22 on 25th, 23 on 26th and 20 on 30th. Smaller numbers passed in June, and in July, August and up to 12th September.

Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*

Continues to spread into the north west of the county, and to fill in vacant areas within its present range elsewhere. 187 feeding in East Park, Hull on 11th August (AWW) and 200 in Hymer's College grounds, Hull on 16th September give some indication of the strength of the population in that area.

237. Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*

The first of spring was at Cotherstone on 15th April (VFB), the next at Burley Woodhead on the 17th, Melton Wood on 19th and widely reported during the 26th to 28th April period.

241. Barn Owl *Tyto alba*

Widely reported and reasonably common (comparatively) in V.C. 61, particularly in Holderness. V.C. 62 had only 1 record. V.C. 63: singles at 4 places, a pair at another and 1 successful breeding record. V.C. 64: single sightings from 20 localities with breeding proved at only 3 sites. V.C. 65: the first definite breeding for 8 years occurred at Sedbergh and 1 young reared to the flying stage. 1 at Healey on 18th January was the only other record.

246. Little Owl *Athene noctua*

Breeding proved at 18 localities and numerous sightings from many areas covering the whole county. The impression is of recovery to a strong position after a low population following the 1962/63 winter.

247. Tawny Owl *Strix aluco*

A pair had an early nest in Valley Road, Scarborough, 2 young *c.* 8 to 10 days old being found when the tree was felled in the interests of public safety on 10th February. (The existence of the nest was unknown of course.) The young were unfortunately killed by the fall and were preserved by J.R.M. They proved to be well fed and the remains of a Starling were in the nest (CIM, JRM).

The species remains common all over the county in all habitats, suburbia being well populated.

248. Long-eared Owl *Asio otus*

A bird of the south-eastern half of the county, no records coming from V.C. 65 and only 1 from V.C. 62, a bird in Lock Park, Redcar on 7th November (WN, WIB). Reported from 2 localities in V.C. 63 with 4 seen perched together on 30th February at Melton Wood and 1 seen at Almholme on 8th November (RJR). No records were received on the V.C. 64 Spofforth breeding site. In V.C. 61, a roost near Patrington on 17th February had a maximum of 19 birds on 17th February (AWW). 1 at Grimston on 15th May (AWW) and 2 at Filey on 21st November (RHAp). Singles were seen at Spurn on 24th March, 6th June and 17th August. 1 in November; 1 on 6th, 2 on 7th, 3 on 8th and 9th on which last date 1 was seen to fly in over the sea.

249. Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*

Many records were received of birds present during the breeding season on several moorland areas in the north-west. Outside this period the bird was widely and commonly reported, mainly, singly, from coastal marshes and saltings and from several lowland as well as moorland areas inland.

252. Nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus*

First heard at Sawley High Moor on 22nd May where 2 pairs bred successfully (MRS, HMJ). 7 singing on Thorne Moor on 29th May (ML). 1 seen and heard near Swinsty Res. on 2nd and 8th June (FAW). 2 singing near Settle in June were the first records for the area (BSh). Singing at Langwith and Skipwith Commons during the summer. 3 singing at Riccadale on 20th June (DJ). 1 seen in car headlights on 1st June at Wike, near Leeds. 1 seen at South Gare in early August (TB). 1 found dying in a Scarborough garden on 15th September (CIM). Spurn had 1 on 1st June, 1 on 13th and 2 on 14th October.

255. Swift *Apus apus*

1 flying south at Tunstall and 1 at Spurn on 18th April (AWW. *et al.*), were the first and early, with 1 at Harrogate S.F. on 22nd April the next. Odd birds were seen from 25th April to month-end with the main arrival occurring during the second week of May.

Spurn had spectacular southward movements during June and July; 20,000 on 23rd June, 8,000 on 28th June, 8,000 on 9th July and 5,000 on 11th and 13th July. 200 passed at Spurn on 16th August on which date H. O. Bunce at Flamborough recorded tired birds coming in over the sea against a strong west wind (160 in 2 hours).

Odd birds were recorded up to mid-September with the last, 3 at Fairburn Ings on 27th.

256. Alpine Swift *Apus melba*

1 flew south at Kettleness on 18th April (BF, NJ, HM). Accepted by "BB" Rarities Committee.

258. Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*

There were far too many records received to itemise and the population is now at a good level. Reported from all parts of the county, mainly from the south and west in all months with breeding proved at several places.

262. Green Woodpecker *Picus viridis*

Evidence of a slight increase especially in vice-counties 63 and 64. V.C. 61: only 1 record of a bird calling at Barnscliffe in June (RHAp). V.C. 62: reported from 7 localities, mainly single birds but present during breeding season at Longwith Common. 1 flew south along the beach at Tunstall on 15th November (AWW). V.C. 63: reported from 19 localities and breeding proved at 2. V.C. 64: reported from 18 localities with breeding proved at 1 site. V.C. 65: 3 pairs in the Sedbergh area, 1 pair proved to breed, and 1 other bird reported for Woodall on 8th May (DTM).

264. Lesser-spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopus minor*

Recorded from 15 localities: V.C. 61; 2 singles in March and December. V.C. 62; no records. V.C. 63, singles at Low Ellers Carr in February, Crigglestone in March and September and Bretton Park in November. V.C. 64; Reported from Harewood Park, Hetchell Wood, Roundhay Park, Ripley Park, Studley Park, Knaresborough R.S., Hampsthwaite, Farnham and Settle. Apart from Ripley and Studley, most records were of single birds outside the breeding season, the Settle bird being only the third record for the area. V.C. 65; at least 3 pairs in the Sedbergh area. 1 at Marske in Swaledale on 22nd December. Successful breeding proved at only 1 site.

265. Wryneck *Jynx torquilla*

At Spurn 1 to 2 birds almost daily from 7th to 16th May. 2 to 8 birds daily from 22nd to 31st August with 15 on 23rd, 12 on 25th, 11 on 28th then singles on 2nd, 3rd and 16th September. 1 at Filey on 22nd August (RHAp, LGD), 1 at Flamborough on 22nd August (HOB, JF), 1 at Hornsea on 24th August (JESW), singles at South Gare on 21st and 22nd August, 4 on 24th August and 1 at Coatham Marsh on 23rd and 24th August (SCN. *et al.*). 1 on Thorne Moor on 29th August (RJR).

272. Skylark *Alauda arvensis*

1,000 were in East Park, Hull on 21st January (AWW). 1,161 flew south at Fairburn Ings on 6th January (CW. *et al.*) and 250 flew over Castleford on same date. 440 flew east over Knotford Nook, G.P. on 4th March (PSw). 250 flew north over Low Ellers Carr on 22nd March. 10,157 birds flew south at Fairburn Ings on 24th December during heavy snow with 480 on the 25th (CW. *et al.*). Weather movements involving smaller numbers were recorded at several other localities.

273. Shore Lark *Eremophila alpestris*

6 at South Gare on 4th January (DSS. *et al.*), 1 at Hornsea on 20th October (WFC), 1 at Grimston on 3rd November (AWW) and 4 at Filey Brig on 21st November (RHAp). At Spurn; 1 on 11th April, 2 on 25th and 26th October, 1 on 29th October, and on 1st, 2nd, 6th and 22nd November.

274. Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

1 at Hornsea Mere on 10th April was first of year. Reported from several areas during the period 15th to 20th April. Southward passage at Spurn occurred as usual during May and on 10 days in June. Heavy southerly passage again from 8th August and during September, with from 500 to 2,000 birds daily. Several birds were seen during October and the last were 2 at Brough Haven and 1 at Cayton Bay on 1st November, 1 at Sewerby on 3rd, 3 at Almholme and 1 at Ben Rhydding on 7th, and 2 at South Gare on 14th November. 10 were at Spurn on 1st November, 3 on 2nd, 1 on 3rd and 1 on 6th.

276. House Martin *Delichon urbica*

The main arrival date was 18th April after odd birds on 16th and 17th. On 18th

October, at Sprotborough Flash, 300 departed at dusk towards Cadeby, followed a few minutes later by another 30. Information on the roosting places of this species is completely lacking and records such as the one above are very interesting.

Several were recorded at many places up to 13th November.

277. Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*

The first were on the Wentworth Estate and Sedbergh on 5th April and at Knotford Nook G.P. on 7th. General arrival was on 17th April with birds reported from several places on that date. Birds were reported inland up to 3rd week of September with the last occurring at Spurn in October with 5 on 5th, 1 on 7th, 1 on 8th and 1 on 16th.

278. Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus*

1♀ at Spurn on 30th May and 1♂ on 6th June. A ♂ was in full song at Farnley Park, near Otley on 3rd June (VSC, IM), and a ♂ at Fairburn Ings on 7th and 8th June (CW. *et al.*).

279. Raven *Corvus corax*

1 pair bred in V.C. 64 (eggs taken) and 3 pairs in V.C. 65 (eggs taken from 2 nests, including a clutch of 7, the 3rd nest fledged 5 young). Odd pairs and singles were reported from 10 other areas on the high ground out of the breeding season.

280. Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*

A roost at Austwick Moss held 50 birds on 8th April and a roost at Adel Dam held up to 60 birds during May. One was seen to catch, pluck and eat a full-grown Starling and a Blackbird at Harrogate S.F. in June and July respectively (JH). 1 was seen to take 2 Tufted ducklings on Swinsty Res. on 15th July (FAW). Hooded Crows *C. c. cornix* occurred at several coastal localities (1 to 2 birds), from January to April and in November/December, with 1 at Easington Lagoon on 16th May (GED). Inland the race occurred singly at Hangthwaite on 25th February (RJR), Low Ellers Carr on 20th December (H), Knotford Nook G.P. in February and March, Kellingley Tip on 25th February and Gouthwaite Res. in January (PJC).

282. Rook *Corvus frugilegus*

The Doncaster and District Ornithological Society carried out a breeding census of this species within a 10 mile radius of Doncaster centre. That part of the area which falls in Yorkshire showed 2,194 pairs in 96 colonies, compared with 2,107 pairs in 96 colonies in 1964 when the area was last surveyed (per RJR). A bird seen at Horton-in-Craven on 1st March was all white except for its crown. The bill and legs appeared normally coloured (HH).

283. Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*

4,000 flew west from a roost over Knotford Nook G.P. at 0745 hrs. on 29th October (PJC).

284. Magpie *Pica pica*

16 "escorted" a Fox *Vulpes vulpes* through a grass field at Burneston, near Scarborough on 25th January (JC, AJW). Several parties of *c.* 20 seen in the Leeds area and one of 30 birds at Old Farnley. 23 were at Burley Rubbish Tip on 12th March (MVB) and 15 at Altofts on 8th February. 8 were tearing at a wasp's nest *vespa* sp., at Bankfoot, near Bradford on 2nd August (GSH).

286. Jay *Garrulus glandarius*

1 flew in over the sea and straight inland at Tunstall on 19th April (AWW). The general impression is of numerical decline.

289. Blue Tit *Parus caeruleus*

At Spurn, after single figures in July, August and early September, up to 31 birds occurred during rest of September suggesting eruptive behaviour. At Flamborough, on 20th September, the species was described as "everywhere", with one party of 10 (HOB). Several were in the hedges at Bempton on the same date (HOB).

294. Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus*

Several parties of 10 to 20 birds reported from September to year-end from all parts of the county.

295. Bearded Tit *Panurus biarmicus*

The species was recorded at Hornsea Mere on several dates from 12th October to year-end, mainly singly but a pair seen on 4 dates in November (WFC). 1 at Spurn on 11th April.

296. Nuthatch *Sitta europaea*

V.C. 61 normally has very few records of this species. In 1970 several were reported suggesting a spread into the S.E.; 1 at Saltmarsh on 5th January (OW). 1 at Birdsall on 11th April and 1 on 6th June (BSP). Almost certainly nested at Hornsea (per DBC) and 1 seen at Hornsea Mere on 24th October (WFC).

300. Dipper *Cinclus cinclus*

1 on a small chalk stream in a South Cave garden on 12th October was well away from any breeding area. It was not possible to check the race (DBC).

301. Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*

A few parties of 10-15 birds reported in July, August and September with 18 at Denholme on 22nd August and 25 flying south over Low Ellers Carr on 27th September.

302. Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*

In the early months, Spurn reported the largest numbers with 1,200 in early January, 4,000 on 17th February and 500 on 18th when birds passed south during hard weather. Elsewhere smaller flocks were seen with birds being reported into early May, the last being 16 at South Gare and 1 at Welton Water on 17th May, on which date 23 were at Spurn where odd birds lingered to month-end.

The first of Autumn were 1 at South Gare on 20th August and 2 there from 21st to 23rd August. Spurn had 1 to 3 birds from 12th September onwards but the main arrival did not take place until early October with a massive arrival on 22nd when many places throughout the county reported great numbers moving west to north-west on this and the next few days. Another, smaller influx occurred in early November with several observers reporting movements through many areas.

303. Song Thrush *Turdus ericetorum*

An arrival of "thrushes" at South Gare on 12th and 13th October, included 1,100 of this species (SCN). A "leucistic" bird was at Ilkley during March (FGC).

303. Redwing *Turdus iliacus*

Inland the species was last reported from several areas during the period 14th to 16th April with birds at Spurn up to 19th, 1 on 25th April and 1 on 17th May.

1,300 at South Gare on 12th October with many *ericetorum* (SCN). 2,000 flew west at Kirk Ella on 14th October and 1,500 were at Spurn on 23rd .Inland, the main movements were recorded during the first week of November, with the heaviest passage on the 8th when several thousands were in hedgerows at Almholme (RJR) and 250 flew over Farnham G.P. (RE).

Individuals caught at Spurn on 6th and 10th November were considered to belong to the Icelandic race *T. i. coburni*.

307. Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus*

The first reported were; 1 at Malham Tarn on 23rd March (BSh), 1 at Ramsgill on 24th March (SMD) with birds at several moorland areas from 25th onwards. Spurn had singles on 31st March, 3rd, 12th and 16th April and 3rd and 23rd May. 1 was at Tunstall on 18th April, 2 there on 19th and 2 on 10th May (AWW). 1 was at South Gare from 13th to 15th May (WW).

1 at Filey on 24th August (LGD) was early wherever its origin. 1 at Flamborough on 26th September (MRS) and Spurn on 23rd and 27th were the earliest of autumn passage, where the species occurred on several days in October with 8 on the 15th as maximum, and singles from 7th to 9th November. Singles were reported from other coastal watch points during October.

308. Blackbird *Turdus merula*

The usual large immigration took place on the east coast in October with birds reported from Teesmouth, Flamborough, Bempton, Hornsea and Spurn during the period 11th to 25th. At Spurn 150 on 11th October, 200 on 15th and 1,000 on 23rd. Another influx on 7th November when Spurn had 400 and 7 were on Filey Brig.

Increases at some inland sites during mid October and on 8th November at Almholme no doubt resulted from the above arrivals.

311. Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*

2 at Rathmell, near Settle on 23rd March were the first reported. Recorded at Flamborough and Spurn on the 24th and at several places inland between 25th and 31st.

Autumn passage at Spurn involved 50 on 20th August, 70 on 23rd and 48 on 24th. Up to 25 birds to 12th September with smaller numbers to end of October. Teesmouth

also showed passage during this period with 24 at South Gare on 23rd August and 30 on 24th. The last in the county was 1 at Spurn from 7th to 14th November and 1 was on Oxenhope Moor on 7th November (BSh).

317. Stonechat *Saxicola torquata*

1 at Tunstall on 28th March was the only coastal record in the spring (AWW). Spurn had 1 to 3 birds regularly from September to year end. 1 at South Gare on 7th August and 2 on 19th August. A total of 10 birds seen in the river Hull valley between Brandesburton and Hempholme on 13th December (AWW). Singles at Filey and Hessle in October and December.

Inland 1 at Fairburn from 1st to 3rd January, 1♂ at Gouthwaite Res. on 31st March (FAW), a ♂ sang at Knotford Nook G.P. on 17th May (PSw), and seen near Leeds during the year at an old breeding locality but no proof of nesting this year. At the year end, 1 on Lindley Moor on 18th October, 2 at Wath Ings on 8th November, and 2 at Marley S.F. on 25th December, and 1 at Fairburn Ings on 18th December with 2 on the 20th.

318. Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*

1 at Spurn on 21st April and daily there in May from the 3rd. The general arrival inland was late and 2 on Thorne Moor on 3rd May and 1 at Grantley on 4th were the earliest, most reports being during 2nd week May. 20 were on Cawood Ings on 20th September (JEB) and several other places had small influxes during mid September. 1 at Norwood Edge, near Harrogate on 3rd October was the last, most areas being clear of birds by 3rd week of September.

320. Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

The first general arrival was during the period 18th to 20th April, with a second wave of birds apparent on the coast during 9th and 10th May. Late birds passed at Flamborough and Spurn on 25th October (HOB) and 2nd November (2) respectively, and 1 was in Kirkstall Road, Leeds on 4th November.

321. Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochrurus*

Spurn had singles on 23rd, 24th, 30th and 31st March, 1 to 4 daily in April with up to 15 birds during mid-month. 1 to 3 birds on several dates in May and 1 on 14th June. 1 near Easington on 12th April (JH), 1 at Tunstall on 14th April (AWW), 1 on Bran Sands, Teesmouth on 12th April (OSS), and singles at South Gare from 7th to 17th May with 2 on 15th.

In autumn, Spurn had 1 from 20th to 22nd September and up to 6 birds on several dates to 29th October. 1 at Fraisthorpe on 12th October (JF) when there were 4 at South Gare (SCN) and 1 at Hornsea on 20th October (WFC).

Inland, a ♀ occurred at Wath Ings on 15th February (HC), the same locality as a ♀ in 1969.

322. Nightingale *Luscinia megarhynchos*

1 at Spurn on 17th May. Present at two breeding localities in the south; first recorded at Sandall Beat on 2nd May where the breeding population was not determined and 2 ♂♂ singing on Thorne Moor.

A bird at South Gare from 10th to 12th May and a second one located there on the 12th could not be specifically determined and are here published as Nightingale/Thrush Nightingale *L. megarhynchos/luscinia* .

324. Bluethroat *Cyanosylvia svecica*

Spurn had several records in May; 1♂ on 9th, 1♂ on 10th and 11th, 1♀ on 12th, 1♀ on 16th and 17th, 1♂ on 17th and 1♂ in full song on 18th. 1♀ Nr. Tunstall on 10th and 16th May (AWW, SGW). 1♀ at South Gare on 10th and 11th May and 1 on 14th May (HM, BF, NJ, SCN. *et al.*).

325. Robin *Erithacus rubecula*

Small influxes were noted at Spurn during latter half of September and during mid October but only up to 20 birds daily involved.

327. Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia*

Widely reported from all parts of the county, most numerously from the south and west. Birds often sang in non-breeding areas for short periods before moving on. The first birds were recorded on 24th and 25th April on the coast, with 1 on Thorne Moor on the 26th.

333. Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*

The main breeding localities are at Hornsea Mere, Fairburn Ings, (*c.* 30 pairs) Swillington/Mickletown area (*c.* 20 pairs), Low Ellers Carr, where a good population was evident, Sprotborough Flash (*c.* 15 pairs) and Thorne Moor (*c.* 20 pairs). The first of the year was at Hornsea on 27th April (JESW), and odd birds lingered at the breeding areas up to 27th September. 1 sang at Flamborough on 31st May — a non-breeding locality (HOB), and the species occurred singly at Spurn on 25th May, 1st, 7th and 10th June and 12th July with 1 to 2 birds passing through from 15th August to 16th October.

337. Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

1 at Knotford Nook G.P. on 18th April was an early arrival (FAW), most areas not having the species until 25th, and the main influx occurring during second week of May. The last reported was 1 at Sandall Beat on 29th September.

340. Icterine Warbler *Hippolais icterina*

Spurn recorded the only birds; 1 on 10th June, 1 singing by Kilnsea church from 21st to 23rd June, 1 at the "Warren" on 28th June and 1 at the "Point" on 30th June and 1 on 31st August.

343. Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*

There were several records of wintering birds, mainly visiting bird tables: 1 ♀ at Hull on 15th February (RV), 1 ♀ at Riddlesden on 2nd and 10th January and 3rd March, 1 at Rawmarsh on 4 dates from 8th to 26th March, 1 ♂ in Ilkley in January was joined by a ♀ on the 21st — both were seen on many dates up to 13th March and the ♂ up to the 16th. A ♂ appeared again on 6th December and was seen almost daily up to the year-end. (Miss MK), 1 ♂ at Burley on 31st January and 1 February (FCD), 1 ♂ in Harrogate on 20th January (Mrs. ES), and 1 in Pontefract in January. 1 ♂ in Locke Park, Redcar on 5th December (NJ. *et al.*), and 1 ♀ at Crossland Moor on 20th December.

344. Barred Warbler *Sylvia nisoria*

At Spurn, singles on 20th, 22nd and 23rd August, 4 on 25th August (with 1 remaining up to 5th September), 2 on 26th August, 4 on 27th August and singles on 25th and 26th September and 9th October. 1 at South Gare from 20th to 22nd August and 1 in Locke Park, Redcar on 7th November (WN, WIB. *et al.*).

346. Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin*

1 in Locke Park, Redcar on 16th April was the earliest recorded. (SCN, WN). The next was at Spurn on 25th April but the general arrival was not until the second week in May when birds were seen at many localities throughout the county.

347. Whitethroat *Sylvia communis*

The general impression was one of only slight recovery after the 1969 population crash with breeding numbers still well below normal. The first spring arrivals were from 24th to 26th April with the main influx occurring during the first week of May. The last birds inland were on 13th September at Gouthwaite Res. and Wentworth but odd birds passed at Spurn up to 30th September.

348. Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia curruca*

1 at Fairburn Ings on 4th May was the first with birds reported from several areas on 9th and 10th May. In autumn, odd ones passed at Spurn up to 10th October.

354. Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*

1 at Spurn on 14th April was the first reported. The main influx was during the period 15th to 18th April when birds were heard singing (and preferably seen also) at many localities. *c.* 80 were in Locke Park, Redcar on 4th May (SCN).

In autumn at Spurn, the species occurred daily during August with 50 on 11th, 100 on 19th and 20th and *c.* 50 on 23rd, 25th and 26th. Small numbers regularly in September and 1 trapped on 13th and 14th October. 100 unspecified "Phylloscopi" on 12th September were more than likely Willow Warblers.

Birds showing characters of the northern race *P. t. acredula* were noted at Spurn on 30th April (1), 16th May (4) and 24th May (3).

356. Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*

1 was seen on a lawn in Burniston, near Scarborough on 3rd January (CIG). 1 sang at Scalby Beck, Scarborough on 12th March (IJP) and in Hirst Wood near Bradford on 27th March. The general arrival was very late with birds not widely distributed until the end of the second week in April. Odd birds were seen inland up to

mid October with birds passing at Spurn to end of October with 1 there on 7th November and 2 on 14th November.

357. Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*

Away from its breeding areas in the north and west of the county, this species is seldom encountered; singles at Spurn on 23rd May and on 6 dates in August. 1 at South Gare on 21st and 22nd August (SCN, WN. *et al.*).

358. Bonellis' Warbler *Phylloscopus bonelli*

1 caught at Spurn on 15th October was considered to be of the eastern race *P. b. orientalis*. Accepted by "B.B." Rarities Committee.

360. Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus*

2 at Spurn on 15th October.

361. Pallas's Warbler *Phylloscopus proregulus*

1 at Spurn on 7th November. Accepted by "B.B." Rarities Committee.

362. Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus*

1 at Spurn on 7th November was the second county record. Accepted by "B.B." Rarities Committee.

364. Goldcrest *Regulus regulus*

Immigration at Spurn in October with 56 on the 15th, and smaller numbers during the next few days. Early November also showed small arrivals with up to 23 on 7th and 10 on 10th.

365. Firecrest *Regulus ignicapillus*

1 at Kilnsea on 18th April. Singles at the "point" at Spurn on 7th November and 12th December. 1 remained at Fairburn Ings from November 1969 and was seen up to 15th February (CW. *et al.*).

366. Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*

1 at Hornsea on 24th April (JESW) was well ahead of the first arrivals inland which were during the period 4th to 6th May, the species not being well distributed until the middle of the month. Inland sites were deserted during the third week of September and Spurn only had birds on 2 dates after 26th September; 2 on 11th October and 1 on 12th.

368. Pied Flycatcher *Muscicapa hypoleuca*

1 at Hornsea on 28th and 29th April (JESW) was the only one in that month. Birds appeared regularly from 4th May at several other coastal localities and inland at Bolton Abbey. Passage at Spurn occurred in autumn with 21 on 20th, 70 on 23rd and 32 on 25th as peaks. 1 there on 12th October was the last seen.

370. Red-breasted Flycatcher *Muscicapa parva*

1 at Spurn on 16th, 18th and 22nd October. 1 ♂ at Grimston on 10th May (SGW, AWW) and 1 at Filey on 22nd October (SD).

373. Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis*

Winter flocks during the early months were 100 near Harrogate in January (MO) and Harrogate S.F. (North) in January and February. *c.* 200 at Knostrop S.F. during February. 70 at Knaresborough R.S. from 30th March to 7th April and 50 on 28th April (JRM, RE). Coastal movements were noted in March and April, with 124 passing north-west at Spurn on 30th March and 81 on 31st and up to 50 passing on several dates in mid April. 200 passed north-west over Kirk Ella on the east slope of the Wolds on 17th April, 120 on 24th and 150 on 30th (SGW), where return movements south-east were noted in September; 1,500 on 11th September (on which date 7,000 passed south at Spurn), 150 on 12th September and 470 on 13th (SAW). 400 passed at Spurn on 7th October and 196 on 26th.

374. Richard's Pipit *Anthus novaeseelandiae*

Single birds were seen at Spurn on 27th September, 14th October, 16th October, 18th October, 19th October, and 17th to 22nd November, with 2 on 1st October. 1 at Hornsea Mere on 2nd November (WFC). All records accepted by "B.B." Rarities Committee.

376. Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis*

1 at Knotford Nook G.P. (FAW) and 2 in Locke Park, Redcar on 11th April were the first and early, the first influx of birds inland being from 27th April. Spring passage on the coast peaked during 9th to 11th May with 20 at Spurn and 10 at Flam-

borough on the 10th. In autumn at Spurn, 20 passed south on 5th September and 30 on the 6th, with odd birds recorded up to 25th.

378. Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus*

1 in full summer plumage at Flamborough on 10th May (JF, HOB). Accepted by "B.B." Rarities Committee. A new county record.

379. Rock Pipit *Anthus spinoletta*

Away from the coast, where the species occurred normally, singles were recorded at Warmsworth S.F. on 14th and 16th January, 14th February and 14th November. At Almholme on 8th November and Wintersett Res. on 28th December. At Fairburn Ings on 4th October, 28th November and 24th December (2). At Farnham G.P. on 28th September (RE) and at Morley's Pool, Settle during January to March (BSh).

A bird of the type race *A. s. spinoletta* in full summer plumage was at Wintersett Res. on 31st March in company with a recently arrived flock of Meadow Pipits (DJS). A bird showing characters of the Scandinavian race *A. s. littoralis* was at Spurn on 19th April.

380. Pied Wagtail *Motacilla alba*

200 at Knostrop S.F. during February was the largest winter gathering reported. Smaller numbers, up to 100 occurred at other Sewage Farms during the spring passage period — March and April. A roost at Sandall Beat held *c.* 600 on 27th February and 500 during August. 150 were at Low Ellers Carr on 23rd September and 180 at Waterloo on 6th October. Birds showing characters of the type race *M. a. alba* were recorded at 15 places during April and early May, mainly 1 to 2 birds, with 5 at Wintersett Res. on 26th April (DJS).

381. Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*

Widely reported from all parts of the county and movement noted on the coast at Spurn where small numbers passed south on several dates in August, September and October.

382. Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*

2 at Ben Rhydding S.F. on 11th April were the first seen (MVB). 1 at Thorne Moor on 12th and at several other places from the 13th. 25 at Harrogate S.F. from 21st to 26th April increased to 70 on 27th, and 90 on 29th, a period of cold weather. Other spring congregations were 34 on Thorne Moor, 100 at Wintersett Res. 53 at Knaresborough R.S. and 40 at Beverley S.F. on 26th April, clearly a day of "arrival".

200 were at Gouthwaite Res. on 3rd August, declining to 50 by the 16th (AFGW). 200 roosted at Fairburn Ings during August. Other places had smaller parties during August and September, most birds having moved out by the end of September. Late birds were 1 at Wentworth Estate on 4th October and 1 at Potterie Carr on 28th October.

A ♂ showing characters of the Grey-headed race *M. f. thunbergi* was at Spurn on 9th May, and ♂♂ of the type race *M. f. flava* were recorded singly there on 3rd and 4th May and 15th August.

383. Waxwing *Bombycilla garrulus*

1 to 4 birds regularly seen at several places throughout the county during January to March, with 10 at Gilling, near Richmond on 8th February and up to 9 in the Valley Gardens, Harrogate to 10th April.

A large influx occurred in the autumn with the first birds on 13th October when 20 were seen at Spurn. Other reports of small numbers came from coastal areas from 20th October and birds were well inland at a few localities by 25th and at others by month-end. Birds continued to arrive in increasing numbers during the first week of November and on the 7th a huge arrival took place from Flamborough northwards. Holderness did not have the large numbers involved in the north-east. Over 300 birds were in North Leas Avenue, Scarborough during the morning of the 7th. These birds soon dispersed and reports came in from several other areas of the town involving 3 to 100 birds. 100 were in Albert Park, Middlesbrough during this same period. Birds soon moved inland and by the 14th large parties were seen at many places. The following were the main flocks reported; Two flocks of 40 each near Harrogate and 50 at Studley Roger, 25 at Otley, 50 in Burley, 20 in Ilkley, up to 20 at six places in the Huddersfield and Bradford regions, 70 in Guisborough and 45 in Hull. Smaller parties, at other places too numerous to list, occurred to the year-end.

384. Great Grey Shrike *Lanius excubitor*

More reports were received then for some years. In the early months birds were

reported singly from Knaresborough, Near Helmsley, Hardcastle Crags, Thorne Moor, Bardsey, Golden Acre Park, Kilnsey, Pool-in-Wharfedale, Fairburn, Coniston, West Ella and Welton Water during January, February and March with 1 at Sandbeck Park on 1st April the last seen.

In autumn many more birds were seen and after the first at Spurn on 22nd September the species was reported singly at 23 places inland on many dates to year-end, covering most of the county, and at 5 coastal sites including Spurn where up to 3 occurred mainly in October.

385. Lesser Grey Shrike *Lanius minor*

1 at Spurn from 11th to 13th June. Accepted by "B.B." Rarities Committee.

388. Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio*

1 ♂ at Spurn from 13th to 17th May and another on 10th and 13th June. 1 ♀ near Tunstall on 24th May (AWW). In autumn, Spurn had 3 on 27th August, 2 on 28th, 1 on 29th and 1 on 20th September. A juvenile at Hornsea on 24th August (JESW) and 1 at Tunstall on 29th August (AWW).

389. Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*

Occurred normally with an autumn influx on the coast during October and November, and several large roosts reported, both in late summer comprising mainly of juvenile birds and during the winter months. The only counted roost reported was at Farnham Mires where 60,000 were in a Hawthorn thicket on 9th March (RE).

391. Hawfinch *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*

Reported from only three localities in V.C. 61; singles at Kirk Ella on 26th May, Hull on 30th June and at Hornsea Mere in November and December. V.C. 62 had two reports, 1 at a bird table at Hackness during January and a pair at Helmsley on 25th May. V.C. 63 had 1 at Roche Abbey on 29th July, and at Almholme where there were 2 on 19th February and 1 on 25th October. V.C. 64; at Studley Park, 9 were seen in January and a family party in August. 1 at Fairburn in January was the only other record. V.C. 65; 1 at Bedale on 7th February, 1 near Sedbergh on 3rd July. A pair giving distraction display near Gunnerside on 5th July, and 1 near Gainford on 25th July.

392. Greenfinch *Chloris chloris*

Vast numbers were at Spurn in early January with 2,000 from the 6th to 8th and 1,000 on the 9th whereafter numbers dropped rapidly and only *c.* 30 remained by the 16th. Inland flocks were 200 at Warmsworth in January, 200 near Brimham in Nidderdale on 11th March and 200 at Settle on 4th April. 230 were counted leaving a roost on Thorne Moore on 13th December.

Southward movement occurred at Spurn on several dates in October with 1,383 on 26th and smaller numbers in November. 200 were on the peninsula on 31st December.

393. Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*

Autumn flocks were numerous and large; 20 at Sprotborough Flash on 20th August, 30 at Low Ellers Carr on 23rd August, 50 at Ben Rhydding S.F. in early September (MVB), up to 50 near Harrogate on 7th September (MO), 50 at Settle on 4th September (BSh) and 50 at Aldborough on 30th August (AFB). 15 at Gouthwaite Res. on 4th February was an unusual winter record (AFGW).

121 passed south at Spurn on 24th May and 84 on 28th. In October, 186 passed south on 7th and 421 on 26th.

394. Siskin *Carduelis spinus*

30 at Knaresborough R.S. on 14th March (JRM) and 30 at Troutsdale on 30th March (AJW) were the largest flocks of the early months, several others of up to 15 birds being reported from several other places.

10 were at Flamborough on 18th October (AFGW) and birds passed at Spurn with 18 on 4th, 10 on 16th, 18 on 17th and 20 on 26th. 27 on 1st November, 20 on 4th and smaller numbers up to 22nd. 30 at Lindley Res. on 30th December (PJC) and 39 at Brownsholme on 8th December (MVB). Up to 20 at Darlington at both ends of the year (VFB). 40 at Ewden Res. on 20th December (JIM), *c.* 60 at Bingley on 2nd November (APJ).

A nest with eggs found in Gisburn Forest on 6th June (FAW).

395. Linnet *Carduelis cannabina*

At Spurn, the species was present in small numbers during January, and in February 351 birds passed south on 15th, and 1,000 on 17th. Smaller numbers were

seen during March before southward movements started from 16th April with 5,170 birds counted on 10 days during that month and smaller numbers during May. The same southerly movements were noted in September, October and November.

Inland, many flocks were noted; 100 at Warmsworth S.F. during January and 200 at Bolton-on-Swale G.P. on 1st January (PJS) were noteworthy for the time of year. 500 were still flocked on chickweed at Rodley S.F. on 8th May.

Autumn gatherings were numerous, 100 to 200 being the usual flock size. 1,000 at Horbury during the last week of September was by far the largest flock reported (DP).

396. Twite *Carduelis flavirostris*

Spurn recorded 1 on 11th January, then after 6 on 27th September the species was seen on many dates to 22nd November, with 28 on 4th October the most in one day.

Away from the known breeding moors, recorded at only a few places; 1 at Settle on 20th March and 2 on 19th April (BSh) 7 at Wilsden in May, 7 on Greenhow between 14th July and 9th August (BSP) 4 on the Wentworth Estate on 15th November (JM) and 7 at Fairburn Ings on 13th December.

397. Redpoll *Carduelis flammea*

Southward movement at Spurn during September included 62 on 14th, 75 on 19th, 105 on 25th, 154 on 26th and 130 on 30th. 156 on 4th October, and 297 on 8th October.

Inland, flocks were generally large; 90 at Wath in January and 70 at Horsforth in April were the only large flocks of the early months. In autumn many flocks of up to 20 were seen and with several larger gatherings reported; Melton Wood had 8 on 20th September, building up to 200 in mid October, 170 at Birk Crag, Harrogate in October, 150 at Settle on 24th September (BSh), 60 at Swinsty Res. on 11th October (FAW) and 80 at Lindley Res. on 9th December (PJC). 106 entered a roost at dusk on Thorne Moor on 28th December.

A bird showing characters of the Mealy Redpoll *C. f. flammea* was at Fairburn on 24th December.

401. Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*

c. 40 at Melton Wood in one small area of Yew Trees on 1st November was the largest party reported. Smaller autumn flocks were seen at several places and the impression is of a successful season.

404. Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra*

Very few reported; 1 found injured in Scarborough on 14th July, 3 caught at Fairburn Ings on 25th July, 1 over Knaresborough R.S. on 11th August (RE), 1 at South Gare on 31st August (AB), 1 at Gouthwaite Res. on 11th October (PJC), 4 at Redcar on 19th November (SCN), 2 at Hornsea on 25th November and 1 there on 25th December (WFC).

407. Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*

80 at Gouthwaite Res. on 22nd February was the only sizeable flock reported in the early months. At the year-end, 100 were at Low Ellers on 13th December, 100 at Bolton Abbey on 19th December, 80 at Lindley Res. on 26th December and in Bretton Park, the winter flock built up to 200 in December. Smaller flocks were reported elsewhere but the general impression is that the population is comparatively low.

The maxima at Spurn were 140 on 30th March and 147 on 18th April, 100 on 13th October and 70 on 15th October.

408. Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*

Spurn recorded 98 on 17th February, 62 on 12th October, 80 on 13th October and 84 on 14th October as its maxima. Generally only small numbers reported for inland localities, the largest being 50 at Tingley on 15th February, 70 at Ben Rhydding S.F. on 25th November and 30 at Bretton Park on 15th December. Elsewhere a few flocks up to 25 birds, but generally fewer.

409. Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella*

Despite comment that this species is declining, several large flocks were reported; 80 at Guisborough on 7th and 8th January (SNB, DGB), 50 at Knaresborough R.S. in January (RE, JRM), 54 at Burley on 26th February (GP), 220 at Wauldby Green, on the Wolds on 8th February, 60 on the saltings at Paull on 15th February (BSP), 53 at Patrington Haven on 15th March (JH), 120 at Haw Park on 15th November (JSA) and 130 on Thorne Moor on 31st December (ML).

410. Corn Bunting *Emberiza calandra*

Spurn had 2 days of spectacular figures; 900 on 6th January and 400 on 7th as

isolated peaks. From 10 to 50 birds there from October to year end with 100 on 31st December. 180 at Paull Holme on 15th February (BSP). 50 on Stubble at Knaresborough R.S. in January (RE, JRM), 50 at Guisborough on 7th and 8th January (DGB) and 54 on Coatham Marsh, Redcar on 19th December (WN). 30 at Wath Ings during April was unusual for that locality (RJR).

416. Ortolan Bunting *Emberiza hortulana*

1 at Spurn from 10th to 14th May and 1 on 26th August.

421. Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*

Coastal numbers were high in the autumn and winter with 130 on Paull Holme salting on 15th February (BSP), 58 at South Gare on 13th October (SCN) and 38 at Spurn on 22nd November and in December.

Southward movement was noted at Spurn in September and October with 114 on 12th September, 143 on 20th, 174 on 27th, 198 on 4th October, 155 on 10th and 65 on 26th.

Several reports of birds visiting suburban gardens in the winter months were received, especially from lower Nidderdale.

422. Lapland Bunting *Emberiza lapponicus*

From 1 to 3 birds occurred on coastal stubble at Burniston Bay, Redcar, South Gare, Tunstall, Atwick, Barmston and Hornsea from 3rd October to year end with 5 at Filey on 21st November (AWW, WFC, FFC, REB, GC, RHAp). Spurn had 1 to 2 birds on 12 dates from 10th October to 20th December.

423. Snow Bunting *Plectrophenax nivalis*

Good numbers reported from the south-east coastal areas with flocks of 40 at Atwick on 27th October, 126 there on 6th November which increased to 150 on 7th and 9th (WFC) 40 were at Filey on 7th November (GC). The Atwick flock reached 246 on 24th November (WFC) and 55 remained on 16th December. 25 flew in over the sea at Bridlington on 29th December. 100 were at South Gare on 21st November (NJ. *et al.*). Spurn had small numbers, up to 14 birds, during January to March and from 21st September to year-end with 24 on 22nd and 31st October, 24 on 22nd November and 90 on 2nd December as maxima. Inland records were 23 at Stagsfell, near Hawes on 8th January (DTM) 1 at Buttertubs on 11th January, 2 at Fairburn Ings on 14th January and on 24th December with 1 on 26th December (CW. *et al.*). 1 to 3 birds on Lofthouse Moor, Nidderdale between 18th November and 12th December (PJC), 4 at Whitaside on 22nd November and 1 to 2 birds at Low Row in Swaledale, Bainbridge, Leighton Res., Roundhill Res. and Greenhow during November and December. 2 at Wintersett Res. on 22nd November (DJS. *et al.*).

424. House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

Spurn recorded the usual Sparrow movements in autumn, the maxima being 1,100 on 24th September. 1,200 on 25th and 1,650 on 27th. Movements of unidentified sparrows included 900 on 4th October and 2,200 on 26th October. A leucistic ♂ was at Guisborough in January (DGB).

425. Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*

200 near Beckwithshaw on 31st December (PH), 230 at Castley in February, and 200 at Hetchell in November were noteworthy flocks.

Spurn had 180 on 19th September, 500 on 27th September, 520 on 4th October, 633 on 10th September, 500 on 18th October and 400 on 1st November.

The following species also occurred during the year.

Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*; **Puffin** *Fratercula arctica*; **Great Spotted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopus major*; **Great Tit** *Parus major*; **Cole Tit** *Parus ater*; **Marsh Tit** *Parus palustris*; **Willow Tit** *Parus atricapilla*; **Tree Creeper** *Certhia familiaris*; **Wren** *Troglodytes troglodytes*; **Dunnock** *Prunella modularis.*

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